



# SURVEY RESEARCH

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NEWSLETTER FROM THE SURVEY RESEARCH LABORATORY

COLLEGE OF URBAN PLANNING AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS-UNIVERSITY OF ILLINOIS AT CHICAGO

## Using Advance Letters in RDD Surveys: Results of Two Experiments

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In telephone surveys with list samples, it is common practice to send respondents a letter in advance of the call to explain the purpose of the study. The assumption is that the advance letters lend legitimacy to the study and increase the likelihood that the respondent will cooperate. In response to steadily declining response rates in RDD surveys and refusals that typically come before interviewers are able to explain that it is a research call, we decided to look at the effect of sending advance letters to households for which an address could be identified in RDD surveys. In this article, we present the results of two experiments to assess the effect of advance letters on response rates.

Our approach was based on the results of dual-frame designs reported several years ago (Traugott, Groves, & Lepkowski, 1987). A traditional dual-frame design involves selecting a list frame sample from a set of numbers based on telephone directories and combining this frame with a separate RDD sample. In our modified approach, RDD samples were ordered from Genesys Sampling Systems. For an additional fee, Genesys appended addresses for cases that were in their listed database. On average, we receive addresses for about 40% of the RDD sample. Regardless of the name associated with the telephone number, the letters were

addressed to "Resident," as we do not know who the respondent will be until a household is rostered and a respondent randomly selected. These advance letters were printed on Survey Research Laboratory (SRL) letterhead and were written in English on one side and Spanish on the other. In both surveys reported here, as is standard SRL protocol, up to 20 contact attempts were made, as well as up to two refusal conversion attempts if necessary.

One of the studies that examined the effect of advance letters on response rates was a statewide omnibus poll conducted in Illinois in April 1999. An advance letter was mailed to a random 75% of the households in the listed stratum. The cover letter stressed that we were conducting a survey of Illinois residents regarding "important issues facing the state today." We completed 605 interviews; the average length of interview was 27.5 minutes. The results are displayed in Table 1. The most notable finding is that listed households in both treatment conditions had much higher response and cooperation rates than did unlisted households. In contrast, the experimental advance letter had no effect on response and cooperation rates (the tiny differences apparent in Table 1 were not statistically significant), even though 57.8% of respondents who were mailed a letter reported that they remembered receiving it.

At the same time we were designing the Illinois omnibus poll, we were planning an RDD survey of City of Chicago residents concerning the city's community policing program, known as "CAPS" (Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy). Northwestern University's ongoing CAPS evaluation monitors trends in public assessments of the quality of police service in Chicago. The 1999 survey was conducted between March 6 and June 20, 1999, and the interview averaged 20 minutes in length. The advance letter began, "Many residents are

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**Table 1. Statewide Omnibus Survey**

Stratum	Response Rate	Cooperation Rate
Unlisted RDD	36.2%	53.1%
Listed RDD - Letter	56.4%	63.3%
Listed RDD - No letter	57.1%	67.1%
TOTAL	45.3%	59.2%

[Note: Response and cooperation rates are calculated according to AAPOR's Standard Definitions (AAPOR, 2000)].

concerned about safety in their neighborhood. In response, the University of Illinois at Chicago and Northwestern University are conducting an important study of crime and safety in Chicago neighborhoods. For this study, we will be conducting telephone interviews with residents in your neighborhood to ask opinions on safety, police patrol, and other concerns." As with the omnibus survey, 75% of the listed households in the sample frame were mailed advance letters.

The results of this experiment are in Table 2. Unlike the statewide omnibus survey, we found significantly greater response and cooperation rates among the listed households that received an advance letter. The response rate was 5.3% higher among households that were sent an advance letter, and the cooperation rate was 6.2% higher. This was true despite the fact that fewer Chicago respondents (50%) remembered receiving the advance letter, and about 7% of the letters that were sent were returned as undeliverable. Both the response rate and cooperation rate differences were statistically significant ( $p < .05$ ), and—for the client—certainly worth the cost of the advance letter.

**Table 2. City of Chicago CAPS Survey**

Stratum	Response Rate	Cooperation Rate
Unlisted RDD	40.3%	60.7%
Listed RDD - Letter	48.7%	64.2%
Listed RDD - No letter	43.4%	58.0%
TOTAL	42.7%	61.3%

The two tables also highlight important response differences between listed and unlisted households that call for further research. Demographic comparisons of the unlisted and listed households show that listed households are significantly more likely to be white (47.7% in listed households vs. 35.8% of unlisted,  $p < .001$ ), older (23% age 60 and older in listed households vs. 14.9% in unlisted households,  $p < .001$ ), college educated (39.4% in listed households and 32% unlisted,  $p < .001$ ) and less likely to be married (32.6% of respondents in listed households compared to 42.1% of those in unlisted households). A logistic regression analysis to predict the characteristics of listed households found the same characteristics to be significant. We found similar

associations in the listed vs. unlisted households in the omnibus poll, suggesting that listed households may be more cooperative to telephone survey requests in part because of demographic differences in the two populations.

The studies cannot reveal why we found a substantial effect of an advance letter in the Chicago project but not the statewide omnibus poll. The letter may have sparked interest in the topics to be discussed. CAPS is a widely-recognized and popular program, and the topic may have appeared more compelling to respondents than that of the omnibus poll. Future RDD surveys at the state and city levels will explore these factors before deciding whether the expense of producing and mailing advance letters is generally cost-effective.

## References

- American Association for Public Opinion Research (2000). *Standard definitions: Final dispositions of case codes and outcome rates for surveys*. Ann Arbor, MI: Author.
- Traugott, M., Groves, R., & Lepkowski, J. (1987). Using dual frame designs to reduce nonresponse in telephone surveys. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 51(4), 522–39.

## PATRONS

- Abt Associates, Inc.
- American Association for Public Opinion Research
- U.S. Bureau of the Census
- Institute for Policy Research, University of Cincinnati
- Institute for Survey Research, Temple University
- Marketing Systems Group
- Mathematica Policy Research
- National Center for Education Statistics
- National Center for Health Statistics
- National Opinion Research Center, University of Chicago
- Opinion Research Corporation
- Research Triangle Institute
- Section on Survey Research Methods, American Statistical Association
- Survey Research Center, University of Michigan
- Survey Research Laboratory, University of Illinois at Chicago
- Survey Section Statistics Laboratory, Iowa State University
- Westat



## CURRENT RESEARCH

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*Further information on the studies described in this section should be obtained from the organizations conducting the studies at the addresses given at the beginning of each organization's listing. Neither Survey Research nor the Survey Research Laboratory can provide this information. Study summaries are accepted by Survey Research with the understanding that additional information can be released to others.*

### ARKANSAS

#### **Institute for Economic Advancement Survey/Business Research Group University of Arkansas at Little Rock**

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501-569-8542, fax: 501-569-8538;  
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**2001 Arkansas Business Conditions Survey.** This study was a cooperative effort between the Contractors Licensing Board, Arkansas Manufacturers Association, and the Institute for Economic Advancement. Its goal was to provide timely statewide employer-based indicators of economic activity from the goods-producing sectors of the Arkansas economy. The population included 6,381 construction and manufacturing establishments statewide. *Principal Researcher:* John Shelnut, *Project Director:* Mark McManus.

### CALIFORNIA

#### **RAND Survey Research Group RAND**

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**Adolescents and Media.** This 2-wave, nationwide panel CATI survey of adolescents' (age 12–17) television viewing habits and knowledge, attitudes, and behavior related to relationships and sex is being sponsored by NICHHD. The first wave was completed in spring of 2001; the second is taking place this spring. A special study sponsored by the Kaiser Family Foundation and fielded last fall focused on reactions to a popular TV show's story line about an unintended pregnancy among a subset of panel members who were regular viewers of the show. *Co-Principal Investigator and Survey Director:* Sandra Berry, *Survey Coordinators:* Shirley Nederend and Chau Pham.

#### **Access to Care by Vulnerable Elderly—Part 2.**

Funded by the Pfizer Foundation, this study will evaluate the care that seniors age 75 and older receive from medical groups. This is the second phase of a multi-wave effort, in which patients are screened and enrolled by medical group staff. Telephone interviews are being administered in spring 2002 and spring-summer 2003 to a panel of 1,000 patients. *Study Director:* Julie Brown, *Survey Coordinator:* Chau Pham.

**Colorectal Cancer Study.** Funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this mail survey is being sent to members of 5 national health plans. Topics include patients' experience and attitudes with screening tests that can detect colorectal cancer; physician recommendations, cost, and health insurance coverage of colorectal cancer screening; and patient health history. *Survey Coordinator:* Cassandra Frankos.

### ILLINOIS

#### **National Opinion Research Center (NORC) University of Chicago**

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**National Tragedy Study.** With funding from the National Science Foundation, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the Russell Sage Foundation, and the *Chicago Tribune*, NORC conducted an RDD survey to gauge public response to the events of September 11, 2001. The study included a national sample of respondents and oversamples from New York City, Washington D.C., and Chicago. The instrument focused on Americans' behavior following the tragedy, psychosomatic and affective responses, and political attitudes, such as confidence in American leadership. Some questions paralleled those used in NORC's 1963 survey following the Kennedy assassination; others were taken from the General Social Survey. The study design allows assessment of America's response to recent tragedy in relationship both to public response following the assassination of President Kennedy and recent national data on similar indicators collected during normal times. The MacArthur Foundation is funding an ongoing follow-up survey. *Principal Investigators:* Ken Rasinski and Tom Smith, *Project Director:* Karen Grigorian.

**National Longitudinal Survey of Youth 1997.** Under contract to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, NORC is collecting data for Round 5 of the annual National Longitudinal Survey of Youth, 1997 cohort. The survey explores the academic, social, and economic experiences of the largest generation of Americans since the

World War II “baby boom.” It examines issues surrounding work force entry and employment transitions in a cohort of youth who were age 12–16 on December 31, 1996. The sample includes oversamples of African American and Hispanic youth. NORC is conducting the survey with the assistance of Ohio State Univ.’s Center for Human Resource Research. NORC expects to complete CAPI interviews with approximately 8,000 respondents. *Principal Investigator:* James Walker (Univ. of Wisconsin), *Project Director:* Rupa Datta.

**National Science Foundation (NSF) Doctorate Data Project.** Under a recently awarded contract, NORC is continuing its support of the NSF’s Doctorate Data Project through work on the Survey of Earned Doctorates (SED) and the Survey of Doctoral Recipients (SDR). *Principal Investigator:* Susan Hill (NSF), *Project Director:* Tom Hoffer.

*Survey of Earned Doctorates.* The SED is an annual survey that gathers information about educational histories, demographics, funding sources, and postdoctoral plans from all recipients of a research doctorate earned from any U.S. degree-granting institution. NORC works closely with the graduate dean offices in the over 400 doctorate-granting institutions to define the universe of new doctorate recipients and to distribute and collect the questionnaires. NORC also conducts extensive locating and individual follow-up efforts to augment the returns brokered by the institutions. Each year the SED data are added to a larger historical record of doctorate-degree graduates, the Doctorate Records File. This file includes records on all research doctorates granted from 1920 to the present and contains basic data on doctorate recipients in various fields. NORC has begun work on the 2002 round of the SED. *Project Manager:* Bronwyn Nichols.

*Survey of Doctoral Recipients.* The SDR is a biennial survey started in 1973 tracking the employment history and research productivity of members of the science and engineering doctoral labor force as they move through their careers in research and practice until age 75. Each cycle includes both the previous wave panel and a new sample of recent graduates. The sample includes about 40,000 individuals. Data have been collected via mail and telephone surveys; future rounds will add a Web-based mode. NORC will conduct the next round of the SDR in 2003. The 2003 sample frame will be augmented with doctorates in the humanities. *Project Manager:* Karen Grigorian.

**The Transition to Nicotine Dependence in Adolescence.** Under a grant from the National Institutes of Health to the Joseph Mailman School of Public Health at Columbia Univ., this longitudinal study will examine the patterns and correlates of progression from non-

smoking and intermittent cigarette smoking to nicotine dependence among adolescents. The sample will be drawn from students in grades 10–12 in school districts in an urban New York county. NORC will screen approximately 17,000 students, then select and recruit approximately 1,500 students to participate, along with parents/guardians, in 5 waves of CAPI interviews and saliva testing. *Principal Investigator:* Denise Kandel (Columbia Univ.), *Project Director:* Sara Murphy.

**Physician Organizations and the Management of Chronic Illness.** NORC is conducting a national telephone survey of 1,100 medical groups and independent practice associations with at least 20 physicians. It will collect information on governance and management, relationships with health plans, degree of risk assumption compensation models, and the management of chronic illness. Funding is being provided by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. *Principal Investigator:* Stephen Shortell (Univ. of California at Berkeley), *Project Director:* Alma Kubby.

### **Survey Research Laboratory (SRL) University of Illinois at Chicago**

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**Work and Well-Being: Waves 3 Through 5.** This is the continuation of a longitudinal study of sexual harassment and the work environment of employees at the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago (UIC). Wave 1 was conducted between October 1996 and February 1997, while Wave 2 was conducted between November 1997 and April 1998. For Waves 3 through 5, approximately 2,500 questionnaires are being mailed, and the Wave 3 mailing was completed in June. *Principal Investigator:* Judith Richman (Dept. of Psychiatry, UIC), *Project Coordinators:* Isabel Calhoun Farrar and Ben Kennedy.

**Evaluation of Statewide Smoking Cessation Program.** To assess the effects of a smoking cessation program offered at public health clinics throughout Illinois, SRL is completing CATI interviews with approximately 900 program participants and 700 members of a control group. Control group interviews began in July 2001, while interviews with program participants commenced in March. SRL also will conduct 6-month follow-up interviews with the program participants. *Principal Investigator:* Clara Manfredi (School of Public Health, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago), *Project Coordinator:* Ben Kennedy.

**Primary Pulmonary Hypertension Study.** This project involved creation of a Limited Access Data File for the

Pulmonary Hypertension Patient Registry for the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (NHLBI) of the National Institutes of Health. Using data collected approximately fifteen years ago, SRL edited and removed all potentially identifying information and prepared technical documentation to support the final data file, which will be made accessible to doctors and medical researchers searching for causes of and cures for primary pulmonary hypertension. *Principal Investigator:* Paul Levy (School of Public Health, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago), *Project Coordinator:* Christine Orland.

**Section 8 Unit Owners Focus Groups.** In the spring of 2001, SRL developed a focus group moderator guide and other focus group materials for CHAC, the organization that administers the Section 8 program in Chicago and Cook County. SRL subsequently conducted 4 focus groups in the summer and fall of 2001 with Section 8 property owners to discuss their experiences with CHAC and the Section 8 program, in particular the inspection process. One group was composed solely of Hispanic property owners. *Principal Investigator:* Mark Thiele (CHAC), *Project Coordinator:* Isabel Calhoun Farrar.

**Physician Stress Due to Litigation.** To assess physicians' level of stress associated with being sued and what they do to cope with this stress, a questionnaire was mailed to the members of the 20 organizations that make up the Council of Medical Specialty Societies (CMSS) during October and November. SRL received 835 responses. The study was conducted on behalf of the CMSS with funding from the Helen Brach Foundation. *Principal Investigator:* Sara Charles (Dept. of Psychiatry, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago), *Project Coordinator:* Jennifer Parsons.

**Veterinary Pathologist Survey.** SRL is conducting this mail survey on behalf of the American College of Veterinary Pathologists to determine if there is a current or anticipated shortage of veterinary pathologists. Separate questionnaires are being sent to institutions that employ veterinary pathologists and institutions that train veterinary pathologists. Data collection began in March. *Principal Investigator:* Ricardo Ochoa (Pfizer, Inc.), *Project Coordinator:* Lisa Kelly-Wilson.

## INDIANA

### Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory Indiana University

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**American Philosophical Association.** This study involves collecting data from over 10,000 faculty members, graduate students, and department chairs in university and collegiate philosophy departments. The results will be used to assess the state of the profession. Data collection began in September 2001 with both mail and CATI interviews. *Principal Investigator:* Brianne O'Brien, *Project Coordinators:* Uriaha Foust, Eric Riddles, and Natalie Tanquary.

**Click-It or Ticket.** CATI interviews were conducted with 1,200 respondents residing in or commuting to work in Marion County, Indiana. The purpose was to assess seatbelt usage and raise awareness by educating the public on seatbelt and child restraint issues. The study will serve as a baseline measurement of awareness for the "Click-it or Ticket" media campaign being conducted by the Indiana Governor's Council on Impaired and Dangerous Driving. *Principal Investigator:* Andy Hutcherson.

**Indiana Anti-Tobacco Media Survey.** This study will aid the Indiana Tobacco Prevention and Cessation Agency in evaluating the effectiveness of their anti-tobacco media program for young people in Indiana. Approximately 600 children age 12–17 and 600 adults over the age of 18 were surveyed, as well as an oversample of 200 Hispanic and 200 African American respondents. *Principal Investigator:* Andy Hutcherson.

**IUPUI POLL 2001.** This statewide poll of over 600 registered Indiana voters probed respondent attitudes about Indiana's property tax increase and budget shortfall. The study was released in November 2001. *Principal Investigator:* Brian Vargus.

**Marion County Health.** On behalf of the Health and Hospital Corporation, 3,200 CATI interviews were conducted with residents of Marion County, Indiana, as well as interviews with 300 Hispanic residents. The study's purpose was to discern what health problems exist in various neighborhoods throughout the county and citizens' overall health awareness. *Principal Investigator:* Brian Vargus, *Project Coordinators:* Brianne O'Brien, Eric Riddles, Uriaha Foust, and Natalie Tanquary.

**Hamilton County Parks.** Approximately 400 CATI interviews were conducted with Hamilton County, Indiana, residents. Respondents were asked about their attitudes regarding local parks and recreation facilities and what could be done to improve these facilities. *Principal Investigator:* Brianne O'Brien, *Project Coordinator:* Eric Riddles.

## Survey Research Soliciting Lead Articles for Upcoming Issues

The *Survey Research* newsletter is extending an invitation to those in the survey research field to submit original work on topics of interest to the survey research community—such as methods for reducing nonresponse, experience with Web surveys, and strategies for recruiting and retaining interviewers—for inclusion in an upcoming issue. Submissions should be between 750 and 1,500 words and can be sent to [krish@srl.uic.edu](mailto:krish@srl.uic.edu).

### IOWA

#### Survey Section Statistical Laboratory Iowa State University

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**Clinic in Every Home.** This mixed-mode survey was designed to obtain feedback on proposed medical technological developments and assess the “technological readiness” of Iowans for these new developments. Focus groups were conducted with Iowa health care providers and consumers to obtain feedback on potential applications of telemedicine, and 600 RDD interviews were conducted with the general population to assess the current use of technology by adult Iowans and to evaluate their adaptability to new technology. The study was conducted for researchers at Iowa State Univ., the Univ. of Iowa, and the Iowa Dept. of Public Health. *Project Manager:* Jan Larson, *Project Coordinator:* Dianne Anderson.

**Stroke Prevention in Young Women.** In this 3-year study, 225 controls will be selected for a case control study to examine the risk factors of early onset stroke. RDD telephone screening is being done to locate healthy women between age 15 and 49 in four regions of Maryland. This study is being conducted for researchers at the Univ. of Maryland School of Medicine Stroke Center and funded by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. *Project Manager:* Allison Tyler, *Project Coordinator:* Dianne Anderson.

**Study of Diet and Health.** This mixed-mode study is being done in eastern Nebraska to investigate the effects of dietary and environmental factors on health, with special emphasis on cancer risks. Over the course of a 2-year period, 750 controls will be selected using RDD screening. This study is being conducted for the Dept. of Preventive and Societal Medicine at the Univ. of Nebraska Medical Center and the Eppley Cancer

Center. *Project Manager:* Karen Fliehler, *Project Coordinator:* Dianne Anderson.

### MASSACHUSETTS

#### Center for Survey Research (CSR) University of Massachusetts Boston

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**Survey of Insurance Status 2002.** This is the third in a series of surveys conducted for the Massachusetts Division of Health Care Finance and Policy. The purpose of these surveys is to estimate the percentage of Massachusetts residents who do not have health insurance. In addition, it creates profiles of people who do and do not have health insurance, as well as describing the attributes of the insurance plans that people have. Between February and June, 2,625 RDD interviews will be conducted in English and Spanish with households across Massachusetts. The sample is stratified into 5 geographic regions, and 2,100 additional interviews will be conducted in targeted areas to get better estimates of selected small areas. *Study Director:* Anthony Roman.

**Academic Health Center Faculty Study.** This was the third in a series of studies aimed at uncovering the consequences of changes in the health care system over the last 10 years on the practice of academic medicine. In the current study, academic health care faculty were asked about their professional activities, the number and distribution of hours in a typical work week, their patient care activities, their research activities, their sources of research funding, and the impact of managed care on their practice of medicine. Close attention was paid to academic-industry relationships in the funding of research and its potential impact on academic inquiry and freedom. A total of 4,800 faculty at academic health centers were selected in a stratified random sample. The mail with telephone follow-up protocol

succeeded in achieving a 66% response rate using standard confidentiality preserving methods; prior studies achieved approximately the same response rates using somewhat more cumbersome methods that guaranteed anonymity. *Study Director:* Brian Clarridge.

**Data Sharing and Withholding in Life Science Research.** This is a recently completed national study funded by the National Institutes of Health that focused on the tension between following traditional data sharing norms—the goal of which is the furtherance of science—and following one’s self-interest by withholding information when seeking professional recognition or lucrative patents. Respondents were geneticists and other life science researchers from both clinical and non-clinical venues. Anonymity was preserved through the separation of survey responses from a mailed-back postcard indicating respondent participation. The sample for this mail study with telephone follow-up was 3,000 life scientists in academic settings selected randomly from a mix of sources. *Study Director:* Brian Clarridge.

**Asian American Health Care Service Delivery.** This 3-year study funded by AHRQ involves creating and cognitively testing bilingual questionnaires in English and each of the following: Vietnamese, Mandarin, and Cantonese. The topic is health care service delivery. Production interviewing currently is being conducted with respondents from 11 clinic sites in 7 major U.S. cities. The initial sample was 4,400 individuals who had had a recent clinic visit, and it is anticipated that 2,200 interviews will be completed. Research will examine the role in the delivery of health care services played by eastern medicine, family participation, and interpreter performance, among others. The study is based on a mailed questionnaire with reminder calls in the language of choice. Each mailed questionnaire contains \$5 cash and the added incentive of a \$500 prize drawing at the end of the study for those filling out the questionnaire. *Study Director:* Brian Clarridge.

**Boston Area Survey 2001.** This is the third year CSR has conducted the annual omnibus survey of the Boston metropolitan area. The current survey will include telephone interviews with 400 residents in the city of Boston and 350 residents in the surrounding metropolitan area. Additional oversampling of selected Boston neighborhoods will provide survey data for smaller geographic units in the city. Topics include neighborhoods, family obligations, community activities, cultural and recreational activities, access to computer technology, jobs and education, and health. This year’s survey also includes a special section on housing issues. *Study Director:* Doug Currivan, *Research Assistant:* Nancy Wacu Maina.

## MICHIGAN

### Survey Research Center Institute for Social Research University of Michigan

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**Child Development Supplement.** The Child Development Supplement of the Panel Study of Income dynamics began in 1997; in that wave, over 2,700 households and 4,100 children participated. Production for the Wave 2 follow-up with the same respondents will begin in 2002. The objective is to provide researchers with a comprehensive, nationally representative, and longitudinal database of children and their families to study the effects of maternal employment patterns, family structure changes, and poverty on child development. The data will enable researchers to study how time, money, and social support at the family, school, and neighborhood levels, as well as parental psychological resources and sibling characteristics, are linked to the cognitive and behavioral development of children as they progress through the stages of childhood and pre-adolescence. *Project Directors:* Frank Stafford and Jacquelyn Eccles, *Survey Director:* ZoAnne Blackburn.

**Women’s Employment Study (WES).** SRC, in conjunction with the School of Social Work, has recently completed the Wave 4 of the WES, an ongoing study of the barriers to employment in a sample of single mothers who were receiving “welfare” at the first wave of the study. Barriers studied include lack of job skills, low educational levels, depression, alcohol and drug use, stressful life events, and experience with domestic violence. To date, SRC has completed 572 interviews. *Principal Investigator:* Sandra Danziger, *Survey Manager:* Sara Freeland.

**National Latino and Asian American Study (NLAAS).** The NLAAS will be the largest study to date devoted exclusively to the mental health and quality of life of Latinos and Asian Americans. Despite large increases in the population of each group over the past 10 years, little is known about their health and well being or to what extent disparities in health status exist among racial and ethnic groups in the United States. CAPI interviews with one randomly-selected adult in sample households will begin this spring. Approximately 4,000 Latino and 4,000 Asian Americans will be interviewed, including people of Mexican, Cuban, and Puerto Rican descent, as well as those of Vietnamese, Chinese, and Indonesian heritage. Interviews will be conducted across the 48 coterminous states and in

Hawaii in English, Spanish, Vietnamese, Chinese (Mandarin and Cantonese), and Tagalog. The study is being conducted in collaboration with the Univ. of Puerto Rico and Indiana Univ. with funding provided by the National Institute for Mental Health, which is also providing funding for separate studies of the general population and black Americans. *Project Directors:* Maggie Alegria and David Takeuchi, *Study Director:* Steve Pennell, *Survey Managers:* Heidi Guyer and Eva Leissou.

## MINNESOTA

### Minnesota Center for Survey Research University of Minnesota

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<http://www.cura.umn.edu/programs/mcsr.html>

**2001 Minnesota State Survey.** This was Part 1 of the 18th annual omnibus survey of adults in Minnesota. From September to November 2001, RDD CATI surveys were completed with 801 adults. The survey was sponsored by government agencies and the Univ. of Minnesota and explored quality of life, business, arts, volunteerism, nonprofits, political participation, correctional services, employment, health, organ donation, and firearms regulation. *Project Manager:* Pam Jones, *Study Director:* Rossana Armson.

**North Metro I-35W Corridor Coalition Employment Survey.** Completed in November 2001, this mail survey gathered information from households in 7 communities along the I-35W highway corridor north of Minneapolis. Its purpose was to obtain information about employment issues, job satisfaction, and transportation practices and concerns. A shortened version of the survey instrument was translated into Spanish, Vietnamese, and Hmong. A total of 4,729 interviews were completed in English; 109 were completed in other languages. The study was conducted for the Univ. of Minnesota Hubert H. Humphrey Institute of Public Affairs with funding from the MN Dept. of Trade and Economic Development, the Intelligent Transportation Systems Institute at the Univ. of MN, and the North Metro I-35W Corridor Coalition. *Project Manager:* Vicki McEvoy, *Study Director:* Rossana Armson.

**Survey of Older Minnesotans.** The purpose of this RDD CATI survey was to assess the needs and concerns of Minnesotans age 55 or older. In addition, information was sought regarding health status, social support, housing, use of resources, and financial assets. The study was completed in October 2001 and was funded by the Minnesota Dept. of Human Resources. A total of 1,639 surveys were completed with

those 55 or older, and an additional 614 surveys were completed by adults 65 years or older. *Project Manager:* Sooyeon Yoo, *Study Director:* Rossana Armson.

## NEVADA

### Cannon Center for Survey Research University of Nevada, Las Vegas

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[http://www.unlv.edu/Research\\_Centers/ccsr](http://www.unlv.edu/Research_Centers/ccsr)

**Southern Nevada Poll.** Approximately 500 Southern Nevada residents completed CATI interviews. Topics included the effects of September 11, pride in institutions, nuclear waste, and the death penalty. This omnibus poll assesses the opinions of residents on a variety of topics. *Principal Investigators:* Thomas Lamatsch and Pamela Gallion, *Project Managers:* Bryan James and Jacqueline Peltier.

**Yucca Mountain Impact Assessment Study.** To measure tourists' opinions on the impact on their travel plans if nuclear waste were transported through the Las Vegas Valley, approximately 1,000 in-person interviews were conducted. *Principal Investigators:* Thomas Lamatsch and Pam Gallion, *Project Managers:* Bryan James and Jacqueline Peltier.

**Opinion Leaders and Decision Makers.** Approximately 300 Southern Nevada opinion leaders and decision makers completed mail questionnaires. Opinion leaders were asked about the future direction that UNLV should take. Topics included academic programs and scholastic and athletic achievement. *Principal Investigators:* Thomas Lamatsch and Pamela Gallion.

**Chancellor's Office.** Approximately 1,200 mail questionnaires were completed by part-time faculty within the University and Community College System of Nevada. The purpose of this study was to evaluate part-time faculty members' needs, recommendations, and their working relationships with their universities. *Principal Investigators:* Thomas Lamatsch and Pamela Gallion.

## NEW HAMPSHIRE

### Survey Center University of New Hampshire

Thompson Hall, 105 Main St., Durham, NH 03824  
603-862-2226, fax: 603-862-1488; Andrew.Smith@unh.edu;  
<http://www.unh.edu/ipssr/survey-center/>

**Granite State Poll.** The Granite State Poll is a quarterly survey of public opinion in New Hampshire. During Oc-

tober, 703 New Hampshire adults were interviewed using CATI to determine present attitudes concerning the New Hampshire political environment, crime, and social capital in the state. Between January 19 and February 4, 2002, CATI interviews were conducted with over 600 New Hampshire adults to examine current attitudes concerning the New Hampshire political environment, public policy, crime, and health care in the state. *Principal Investigator:* Andrew Smith.

**Attitudes and Opinions on Alcohol and Other Drug Problems and Strategies.** During November and December, 417 CATI interviews were conducted with registered New Hampshire voters. This study was conducted for New Futures, a not-for-profit organization funded in part by an anonymous gift to the New Hampshire Charitable Foundation. The purpose of the survey was to determine residents' attitudes towards issues concerning alcohol and other drugs, particularly attitudes towards treatment and legislative proposals. *Principal Investigator:* Andrew Smith.

**Single Mother Stress Survey.** With funding from the Ford Foundation, the Survey Center is interviewing approximately 700 single mothers in rural northern New England (Maine, New Hampshire, and Vermont) using CATI. This study began in December 2001 and is being conducted to examine stress among single mothers in rural areas. *Principal Investigator:* Heather Turner.

## NORTH CAROLINA

### Social and Statistical Sciences Research Triangle Institute

3040 Cornwallis Road, P.O. Box 12194, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194  
919-541-7008, fax: 919-541-7004;  
rak@rti.org; <http://www.rti.org>

**Functional and Health Changes of the Elderly.** This project is sponsored by the National Institute on Aging, in collaboration with researchers at Duke Univ.'s Center for Demographic Studies. These nationwide substudies are supplemental to the 1999 National Long Term Care Survey (NLTCs) and will provide data to examine the role of genetics in chronic diseases and longevity. There are four substudies, as follows:

- (1) *Venipuncture study*—Phlebotomists visited NLTCs participants' homes to collect blood samples for genetic analysis. Data collection ended in fall 2001.
- (2) *Buccal cell study*—Mouthwash was used to collect oral buccal cells from NLTCs participants for genetic analysis. The study was conducted by mail; data collection ended in fall 2001.
- (3) *Kin study*—CATI interviews about respondent health and well-being are being conducted with sib-

lings of NLTCs participants. Participants then mail in an oral buccal cell sample collected via mouthwash. Data collection began in May 2001.

- (4) *Next of kin study*—CATI interviews are being conducted with deceased NLTCs participants' next of kin regarding cause of death, place of residence prior to death, and use of institutional care facilities. Data collection began in fall 2000. *Project Director:* Rebecca Martin.

## OHIO

### Institute for Policy Research University of Cincinnati

P.O. Box 210132, Cincinnati, OH 45221-0132  
513-556-5028, fax: 513-556-9023;  
Alfred.Tuchfarber@uc.edu; <http://www.ipr.uc.edu>

**The Ohio Poll.** Sponsored by the Univ. of Cincinnati, the Ohio Poll is a periodic, RDD CATI survey. The February (n=811), April (n=804), July (n=836), and November (n=826) 2001 Polls asked Ohio adults about a wide range of issues, including the most important problem facing Ohio, consumer confidence, presidential and gubernatorial approval, and approval of U.S. senators. Individual surveys addressed a range of other topics, including Ohioans' views on joining a multistate lottery, concealed carry, and health care (April), and the initial impact of September 11 and term limits (November). *Co-Directors:* Kim Downing and Eric Rademacher.

### Butler County Mental Health Board Tax Levy Study.

The main purpose of this study was to ascertain the level of support for a proposed tax levy for mental health services. It also sought to determine levels of support for provision of other services in the county. During November 2001, RDD CATI interviews were conducted with 336 Butler County residents identified as likely to vote in future elections. *Co-Directors:* Grant Neeley and Alfred Tuchfarber.

## OKLAHOMA

### Bureau for Social Research Oklahoma State University

306B Human Environmental Services, Stillwater, OK 74078-6117  
405-744-6701, fax: 405-744-3342;  
chrisaj@okstate.edu; <http://www.okstate.edu/hes/bsr/>

**Statewide Baseline Survey on Marriage.** Approximately 3,300 CATI interviews will be conducted with residents of Oklahoma, Texas, Kansas, and Arkansas regarding marriage and divorce for the Oklahoma Dept. of Human Services. The survey's objective is to gather baseline data for assessing the long-term impact of the

Oklahoma Marriage Initiative and includes questions related to (1) attitudes about intimate relationships, marriage, family, and divorce; (2) demographic data on marriage, divorce, remarriage, patterns of cohabitation, and intent to marry/remarry; and (3) knowledge of and acceptance of prevention education. *Principal Investigator:* Christine Johnson, *Data Collection Coordinator:* Kimberly Williams.

## OREGON

### Oregon Survey Research Laboratory (OSRL) University of Oregon

5245 University of Oregon, Eugene, OR 97403-5245  
541-346-0824, fax: 541-346-0388;  
osrl@oregon.uoregon.edu;  
<http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~osrl>

**Public Inconvenience on Highway Construction and Maintenance Projects—Motorists Survey.** OSRL conducted 2,002 RDD CATI interviews of Oregon residents (400 each in 5 regions) for the Oregon Dept. of Transportation (ODOT) during the construction season. The study aimed to find out respondents' perceptions of highway construction and maintenance projects and their experiences traveling through them. ODOT will use the results to help them better manage construction zones and lessen the zones' impact on the public. *Principal Investigator:* Patricia Gwartney, *Project Directors:* Brian Wolf and Vikas Gumbhir.

**Senior Health Survey.** PeaceHealth Medical Group's Center for Senior Health wants to learn how health changes for seniors over time. Outcomes include physical and emotional health and satisfaction with health care. In December, OSRL completed the first of 4 annual interviews with respondents age 66 or older with Medicare benefits (1,716 CATI and 7 face-to-face interviews). *Principal Investigator:* Ronald Stock with Patricia Gwartney, *Project Director:* Vikas Gumbhir.

**Eugene Public Library Community Survey.** OSRL completed 489 RDD CATI interviews with Eugene citizens for the Eugene Public Library in November and December. This study included an oversample of 104 self-identified Hispanic households. The study discerned residents' use of library resources, satisfaction with the library, and knowledge of and preferences for funding options. *Principal Investigator:* Patricia Gwartney, *Project Director:* Brian Wolf.

**Forest Perception Survey.** This study, funded by the U.S. Forest Service, concerned public forest use and esthetic opinions of forests resulting from different management practices. The instrument contained expensive color images of forests, so OSRL developed complex, atypical mail-out/mail-back procedures to opti-

mize response and minimize anthrax scare. OSRL sent 1,051 questionnaires to randomly-selected registered voters in 6 Oregon and Washington counties in November and received 981 back. *Principal Investigator:* Robert Ribe (Univ. of Oregon), *Project Director:* Tony Silvaggio.

### Oregon Annual Social Indicators Survey (OASIS)

**2001.** This annual omnibus survey covered various issues for the Oregon Parks and Recreation Dept., Oregon Dept. of Transportation, Oregon Criminal Justice Commission, and Univ. of Oregon researchers. Topics included camping, recreation, medically impaired drivers, racial profiling, terrorism, self-defense, and the environment. OSRL completed 806 RDD CATI interviews with Oregon residents in December. *Principal Investigator:* Patricia Gwartney, *Project Director:* Vikas Gumbhir.

## PENNSYLVANIA

### Institute for Survey Research (ISR) Temple University

1601 N. Broad St., Philadelphia, PA 19122  
215-204-8355, fax: 215-204-3797;  
lenlo@temss2.isr.temple.edu; <http://www.temple.edu/isr>

**Fathers at Work Initiative Evaluation.** This study of a program designed to help young, non-custodial fathers is being conducted for Public/Private Ventures and is funded by the Charles Stewart Mott Foundation. ISR is conducting baseline CATI interviews with 1,500 recent enrollees across 6 program sites in Philadelphia; Roanoke, VA; Chicago; Richmond, CA; and two sites in New York, NY. Twelve- and 24-month follow-up interviews also will be completed as part of this ongoing evaluation. *Study Director:* Heather Hammer.

**National Longitudinal Survey of Freshmen.** Now entering its fourth wave of interviews, this Andrew W. Mellon Foundation-supported nationwide study is designed to produce detailed longitudinal data files that include both retrospective and prospective event histories for Caucasian, African American, Latino, and Asian college students at 28 selective colleges and universities. CATI interviews will be completed from a sample of 3,904 respondents, most of whom are in their third year of college. *Principal Investigators:* Douglas Massey and Camille Charles (Univ. of Pennsylvania), *Study Director:* Ellin Spector.

**Evaluation of the Center for Employment Training (CET) Replication.** Conducted for the Manpower Demonstration Research Corporation with funding from the U.S. Dept. of Labor, this study is evaluating the effectiveness of replicating the CET model in other sites and evaluating each program in achieving its goal of

increased labor market participation. ISR has completed 1,213 30-month follow-up interviews from a sample of 1,407 for this dual-mode study (CATI-CAPI). By January 2002, interviews had been completed with 287 respondents in the 54-month follow-up. *Study Director:* Ellin Spector.

**Barriers to ChildCare Subsidy (BCCS) Study.** ISR recently completed a telephone study on childcare subsidies for the Temple Univ. Center for Public Policy. Its purpose was to provide policy makers with the information necessary to revise outdated practices that may make it difficult for needy parents to obtain available child care subsidies. Eligibility was based on age, race, employment, neighborhood, and age of child (3 years or under). ISR completed screening interviews with 7,372 households. Of the 588 eligible households, 542 completed interviews. *Project Director:* Louise Hanson.

**Mechanisms Linking Depression to Cardiovascular Risk.** This study's purpose is to increase understanding of cardiovascular changes (if any) that may occur as a result of depression. Approximately 400 twin pairs who are members of the Vietnam Era Twins Registry are being invited to participate. Telephone screening will be followed by an in-depth clinical evaluation of the

cardiovascular system, involving a clinical interview and physical exam, laboratory testing, ambulatory electrocardiogram (Holter) monitoring, Positron Emission Tomography (PET) imaging of the heart, and ultrasound examination of the vessels in the neck and arm. Clinical evaluations will take place in Atlanta. *Principal Investigator:* Viola Vaccarino (Emory Univ. School of Medicine), *Study Director:* Ellin Spector.

**Evaluation of Across Ages Program.** ISR will evaluate a partnership between Temple Univ.'s Center for Intergenerational Learning and the United Way of Southeastern Pennsylvania. One hundred youth attending After-School Initiative programs are being targeted each year for participation in the *Across Ages* program. Through the Church Mentoring Network, each after-school site will have a faith-based partner. Older adults from these churches will be trained as mentors in the *Across Ages* program and will be matched with youth in the after-school programs. At the same time, staff from the After-School Initiative and Church Mentoring Network will be trained to replicate the model in sites throughout the city. The 3-year study will involve both outcome and process evaluations. *Evaluator Team:* Leonard LoSciuto, Lorraine Porcellini, and Cassandra Gibson.

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## WASHINGTON

### **Social & Economic Sciences Research Center Washington State University**

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99164-4014  
509-335-1511, fax: 509-335-0116;  
sesrc@wsu.edu; <http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/>

#### **California Residential Energy Conservation Study.**

To discover what factors influence household energy conservation, 9,166 dual-frame directory-listed and RDD CATI interviews were completed with residents within 5 electrical energy utilities' service areas in California in the fall of 2001. Specifically, media messages, conservation program interventions, energy price changes, and external triggering events, such as black-outs, were examined. The study was conducted for the Washington State Univ. Dept. of Sociology and was sponsored by the California Energy Commission. *Principal Investigator:* John Tarnai, *Study Director:* Thom Allen.

**Informal Childcare Survey.** This RDD CATI survey was sponsored by Evaluation Services Center at the Univ. of Cincinnati and was designed to identify Ohio households with children under age 12. Also, high-density ethnic areas based on Census blocks were oversampled with the same household screening criteria. The purpose of the survey was to determine the factors related to current childcare arrangements and reasons for selection. Interviews were conducted with 1,325 parents about informal childcare. *Principal Investigator:* John Tarnai, *Study Director:* Marion Landry.

**Client Satisfaction Survey.** Funded by the Washington Dept. of Social and Health Services (DSHS), the primary purpose of this CATI survey was to obtain information on clients' perceptions of the effectiveness of and access to DSHS programs and services. Interviews were completed with 982 clients. *Principal Investigator:* John Tarnai, *Study Director:* Dretha Phillips.

**Cotton Production: Pest Management Practices, Issues, and Concerns.** The Univ. of California State-wide Integrated Pest Management Project sponsored a survey to collect information from California cotton growers on their pest management practices, pest management decision-making, familiarity with and attitudes towards Integrated Pest Management (IPM), and other farm characteristics. A questionnaire was completed with 267 California agricultural producers in 10 counties who grew cotton in 2000. *Principal Investigator:* Rose Krebill-Prather.

**Public Utility Tax Survey, Fall 2001.** Sponsored by the Washington State Dept. of Health, this mail survey

was designed to obtain information about utility firms' participation in a state tax incentive program. The questionnaire was mailed to all public utility firms in Washington, and 298 firms returned questionnaires. *Principal Investigator:* John Tarnai, *Study Director:* Marion Landry.

## WISCONSIN

### **Survey Center (UWSC) University of Wisconsin**

2412 Social Science Bldg., 1800 University Ave. Room 102,  
Madison, WI 53706  
608-262-1688, fax: 608-262-8400;  
stevenso@ssc.wisc.edu; <http://www.wisc.edu/uwsc>

**Statewide Recycling Study.** Funded by the Wisconsin Dept. of Natural Resources (DNR), this RDD study is tracking household recycling levels throughout Wisconsin. UWSC will complete approximately 400 interviews with randomly-selected adults. *Principal Investigator:* Ed Nelson (DNR), *Project Director:* Jessica Jakubowski.

**Wisconsin Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance Study.** This yearly telephone survey is being conducted for the Wisconsin Dept. of Health and Family Services. UWSC also conducted this survey in 2000 and 2001. The questionnaire will be administered to at least 4,000 Wisconsin households in 2002. The study measures the health and health-related behaviors of Wisconsin residents. *Principal Investigator:* Eleanor Cautley, *Project Director:* Kelly Elver.

**Women in Science Gender Climate Study.** This study will examine the climate for professional women working in engineering and physical sciences at the UW-Madison campus. In Years 1 and 5, UWSC will conduct a 4-wave mail survey with 2,400 men and women. The instrument will explore gender climate issues, evaluate current programs, and track changes over time. The National Science Foundation is funding this project. *Principal Investigators:* Mary Carnes and Jo Handelsman.

## CANADA

### **Institute for Social Research (ISR) York University**

4700 Keele St., Toronto, Ontario M3J 1P3, Canada  
416-736-5061, fax: 416-736-5749;  
isrnews@yorku.ca; <http://www.isr.yorku.ca>

**Canadians' Health and Well-Being.** ISR is conducting a national study examining the health and well-being of Canadians on behalf of a number of organizations,

including the Canadian Fitness and Lifestyle Research Institute and the Berger Population Health Monitor, a semi-annual health survey. Approximately 4,000 CATI interviews will be conducted with Canadians in randomly-chosen households across the country in the winter and spring of 2001–2002. Funding for the project comes, in part, from Health Canada. The study is designed to help researchers better understand how they can effectively assist Canadians in maintaining and improving their health and well-being. *Principal Investigators:* Cora Lynn Craig and Earl Berger, *Study Director:* Richard Myles.

#### **The Home as a Site for Long-Term Care Project.**

This study examines the experiences of Ontario residents who receive home care services in several regions across the province. Issues being explored include the kinds of services home care recipients receive, their satisfaction with these services, their housing conditions, and home modifications that may have been required due to their disabilities. The Institute is conducting 900 CATI interviews in 3 catchment areas throughout the fall and winter of 2001–2002. Local Community Care Access Centres are collaborating partners in this research, and the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada is funding the study. *Principal Investigator:* Patricia McKeever (Home and Community Care Evaluation and Research Centre at the Faculty of Nursing, Univ. of Toronto), *Study Director:* John Pollard.

**Population Health Study.** The Institute is conducting 1,500 CATI interviews in the fall and winter of 2001–2002 with residents of Hamilton, Ontario. The study explores respondents' opinions of their neighborhoods, their social and community networks, their health status and general health behaviors, and their use of health services and preventive health care, among other topics. This study is funded by the Social Sciences and Humanities Research Council of Canada. *Principal Investigator:* John Eyles (Institute of Environment and Health, School of Geography and Geology at McMaster Univ.), *Study Director:* John Pollard.



## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

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*This section is reserved for calls for papers, announcements of new publications, information about upcoming conferences, and other items of interest to the survey research community.*

#### **AAPOR Conference**

AAPOR's 57th Annual Conference will take place May 16–19, 2002, at Tradewinds Island Resorts in St. Pete Beach, Florida. Registration, lodging, and program information can be found at <http://www.aapor.org/conference>.

#### **International Field Directors and Technologies Conference**

The International Field Directors and Technologies Conference will be held May 19–22 in Clearwater, Florida, at the Hilton Clearwater Beach Resort. Further information and registration instructions can be found at <http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/ifdte>.



## **PERSONNEL NOTES**

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*Survey Research reports on the new appointments and promotions of professional staff at academic and not-for-profit survey research organizations, as well as those of the for-profit organizations that are patrons of the newsletter.*

*Burke Grandjean* has been named Director of the Survey Research Center and Statistical Consulting Service at the Univ. of Wyoming; he retains his academic position as a professor in the UW departments of statistics and sociology. *Bistra Anatchkova* has been promoted to Manager of the Center, having previously served as the Center's Information Specialist. *Trish Huckfeldt* has been promoted from Office Aid to Research Aid. *Mihhael Korasteljev* has been hired as the Center's Information Technology Developer. Since 1998 he had been employed at Hansabank, Ltd. in Tallinn, Estonia, as Information Technology Project Manager.

NORC is pleased to welcome *Jenny Kelly* as Vice President and Special Assistant to the President and *Fred Van Deusen* as Senior Vice President for Quality Assurance. NORC is also pleased to announce the promotion of *Rupa Datta* of our Economics and Population Department to Senior Survey Director II, the promotion of *Zhiwei Zhang* of our Statistics and Methodology Department to Senior Research Scientist and the

promotion of *Kathryn Vargish* of the Health Studies Department to Senior Survey Director I.

*Susan Mitchell* has been appointed Associate Director in the Surveys and Information Services (SIS) division, Mathematica Policy Research, Inc. She currently directs the firm's national survey of disabled children for Social Security Administration and is located in the firm's DC office.

At the University of Illinois at Chicago's Survey Research Laboratory, *Linda Owens* has been named Assistant Director for Survey Operations. Previously she served as SRL's Sampling Operations Supervisor.

Research Triangle Institute welcomes *Mike Lawrence*, who has accepted a position as a Senior Survey Director in the Washington, D.C. office.

At the Univ. of Michigan's Institute for Social Research, Survey Research Center, *Laura Houk*, *Debra Gorney*, and *Michael Shrank* have joined the Survey Manager group. Also, *James Wagner* has joined the Sponsored Project Financial Management team as a Survey Director, and *Vivienne Outlaw* has been promoted to Manager National Field Team Operations.

The Oregon Survey Research Laboratory at the Univ. of Oregon has hired *Juyeon Son* as a Graduate Research Assistant/Project Director.

*Ashley Grosse* has joined the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center, Washington State Univ. as a Research Associate. Previously she was Director of Studies for the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems at Univ. of Michigan.

*Kerryann DiLoreto* has joined the Univ. of Wisconsin Survey Center as a Project Manager.



## JOB OPPORTUNITIES

*This section contains listings of employment opportunities in survey research organizations. Listings can be sent to the editors at the address in the newsletter or e-mailed to [krish@srl.uic.edu](mailto:krish@srl.uic.edu). Survey Research does not charge a fee for these postings.*

**Senior Research Fellow** at the Center for Survey Research (CSR), Univ. of Massachusetts Boston. We currently have an opening for a social science Ph.D. to join CSR's 7 senior staff members and work as a collaborative, interdisciplinary team member. CSR conducts a wide variety of survey research projects, both as princi-

pal investigators and as subcontractors to other researchers. Projects cover a wide range of timely subject areas, such as health care delivery, tobacco control, and adolescent stress. We emphasize methodological research and integrating new knowledge into our survey efforts. We are seeking applicants with special interest in methodological aspects of survey research (e.g. sampling, question design and evaluation, Web-based surveys, computer-assisted data collection), and/or new analytic techniques (e.g. multi-level statistical analysis, analysis of longitudinal data, nonresponse bias). Applicant must have demonstrated analytic skills and an ability to develop funding for her/his own research interests. Considerable experience with large-scale probability sample survey projects is essential. Competitive calendar-year salary commensurate with experience. Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Employer. Application review will begin immediately and continue until the position is filled. Send vita to Director, Center for Survey Research, Univ. of Massachusetts Boston, 100 Morrissey Blvd., Boston, MA 02125.

The Research Triangle Institute is conducting a national search for a **Research Director—Survey Research Division**. Responsibilities include expanding RTI's scientific reputation as a major contributor to research in survey methodology and providing a vision for long-term growth of a balanced portfolio of research projects in the division. The Director will optimize resources and processes to meet the ever-changing timing and quality needs of our clients globally and pursue emerging technologies appropriate for application to research employing information collection designs. We seek a decisive, energetic individual who has an advanced degree in a health, social, or behavioral sciences discipline (or closely related field) and demonstrated expertise in business development, strategic/organizational planning, and information/data collection and processing. Background managing a large, multidisciplinary professional team conducting contract and grant-supported research is highly preferred, as is extensive experience working in the health and policy sciences or survey industries. Candidates are invited to forward resumes to Jeff Boynton, Office of Human Resources, RTI INTERNATIONAL, P.O. Box 12194, Research Triangle Park, NC 27709-2194. Fax: (919) 541-6506. E-mail: [jboynton@rti.org](mailto:jboynton@rti.org) (please reference Req. # JB10088 on all correspondence).

The Odum Institute for Research in Social Science at the Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill has an opening for the position of **Associate Director for Survey Research and Development**. The primary responsibility of this position is to lead the survey research activities of the Institute. The Odum Institute has a long tradition of survey research on which the person would build. Job duties include (a) serving as a

senior research investigator for social science surveys in acquiring contracts and grants, (b) supervising a survey research staff to conduct the required research, (c) writing up survey results in reports to the sponsors and media releases, and (d) teaching short workshops and consulting with faculty members and graduate students on survey research topics. This person also will consult with faculty and graduate students in proposal development. The individual in this position is free to pursue sponsored research through grants to cover some proportion of salary, but this is not required. Minimum qualifications: Ph.D. in social science preferred; experience also valued. Salary: competitive, depending on education and experience. Submit letter of intention, complete CV, and names and titles of 3 references to Search Committee, Associate Director Opening, Odum Institute, Manning Hall, Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Chapel Hill, NC 27599-3355. Review of applications began on March 1, 2002, but applications will be accepted until position is filled. The Univ. of North Carolina at Chapel Hill is an Equal Opportunity Employer. Women and minorities are encouraged to apply. [www.odum.unc.edu](http://www.odum.unc.edu)

The Survey Research Center at the Univ. of Michigan has openings for **Regional Field Managers** and is seeking to fill the position of **Survey Services Lab (SSL) Manager**. The SSL Manager duties include overseeing all centralized telephone data collection, mail survey implementation, coding, and data entry functions. Individuals interested in these positions are encouraged to send a letter of introduction and resume to Nancy Bylica, Institute for Social Research, Survey Research Center, P.O. Box 1248, Ann Arbor, MI 48106. Informal inquiries also can be made via e-mail to [bpennell@isr.umich.edu](mailto:bpennell@isr.umich.edu). The Univ. of Michigan is an Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Employer.

The Univ. of Wyoming Survey Research Center seeks applicants with a Master's degree in survey research (or an equivalent combination of training and experience), for a position as **Research Associate** or **Project Coordinator**. Terms and conditions are flexible, and salary will be commensurate with qualifications. Full-time or part-time employment is possible, with an appointment that could range from a few months to an extended term. A person whose training and experience complement our own will have considerable input in defining the duties of the position description, as we work together to rebuild the Wyoming survey center in Laramie. Apply by June 1 to [burke@uwoyo.edu](mailto:burke@uwoyo.edu).

Temple University's Institute for Survey Research has openings for **Field Administrators** who will work out of offices on the Philadelphia campus. Field Administrators recruit, hire, train, and manage field

coordinators, interviewers, telephone interviewers, and supervisors to collect data on survey projects. The position requires directly related survey research, administrative, and computer-assisted interviewing experience. Computer skills, including word processing, database management, and basic spreadsheet functions, also are required, as are strong verbal communication skills. Responsibilities include tracking study progress, precise recordkeeping, and writing instruction manuals, memos, and end of study data collection reports. Generous benefit package including 403b and tuition remission. Please respond to [peter@temss2.isr.temple.edu](mailto:peter@temss2.isr.temple.edu) with a resume and cover letter.



## PUBLICATIONS

*This section contains references for publications on survey research methodology. They are not available from Survey Research nor the Survey Research Laboratory.*

- Bailar, B. A., & Weiss, C. (2002). High response rates for low-income population in-person surveys. In M. Ver Ploeg, R. A. Moffitt, & C. F. Citro, (Eds.), *Studies of welfare populations: Data collection and research issues (2002)*. Panel on Data and Methods for Measuring the Effects of Changes in Social Welfare Programs Committee on National Statistics, Division of Behavioral and Social Sciences and Education. Washington, D.C.: National Academy Press.
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- Epstein, J. F., Barker, P. R., & Kroutil, L. A. (2001). Mode effects in mental health self-reports. *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 65, 529–49.
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