INTRODUCTION

Many of us remember—somewhat fondly—the relative simplicity of conducting a population survey on the telephone circa 1994. RDD was the sampling approach and CATI systems were relied upon to handle sample management and record-keeping. Discussions of "mode" still focused on telephone versus in-person for most of the industry. Things have gotten just a wee bit more interesting since then. The advances in communication technology have changed the science and the practice of survey research in dramatic ways over the last two decades. That pace has quickened notably in the last five years owing to the growing proportion of the population who no longer have household landlines and the explosion of new mobile technology in the form of smartphones, tablets, and associated apps. RDD is still with us, but it is now dual-frame RDD; online/Web mode is common practice, and many survey centers are facing the challenges of keeping up with the fast-moving technology train.

The challenges of the technological advances come in several areas. The first challenge is often simply learning about and understanding the technologies that now exist for collection of information. Beyond the standard troika of attitudes, knowledge, and self-reported behaviors (i.e., traditional surveys), new information including biomarkers, biometrics, and geospatial video can now be part of the data collected on a given project. Gamification, analysis of social media, and use of virtual landscapes such as Second Life are now on the list of things we need to know about and understand (Hill, Deane, & Murphy, 2013). Staying abreast of the newest technologies and applications to social science data collection can be a major hurdle—especially for smaller survey centers with fixed or limited funding and relatively small numbers of staff. A second challenge can be finding the resources to invest in hardware and software and the associated training that is often needed to assure rigorous application and integration of new technologies into more traditional protocols. Hiring staff dedicated to building apps or assisting with geospatial coding is not possible for most academic survey centers.

Despite the daunting challenges that accompany keeping abreast of new technologies, these new
frontiers do offer opportunities to advance survey science and deepen the reach of our work into transdisciplinary arenas such as medicine, geography, and even engineering sciences. In many ways, these new technologies can provide opportunities to “marry” traditional survey science with other methods and disciplines. If survey centers wish to more fully embrace these technologies and not fall behind, what are some first steps? While there are no hard and fast rules or best practices, we offer some suggestions and pose questions here aimed at making some headway in the fast-changing world of data collection and “big data.”

OPTIMIZATION—A FIRST STEP

When we conduct a survey that includes an online mode, how do we insure we are reaching all potential respondents on all potential electronic platforms? Any given potential participant may be contacted on their desktop, their laptop, a tablet, or a smartphone. A growing literature suggests that the displays and response constraints differ significantly across these platforms (Buskirk & Andrus, 2012; Callegaro, 2010), and increased mobile usage has been mirrored by increasing calls for greater optimization of survey compatibility across platforms (Callegaro, 2010). Decreasing navigation burden (pinching, zooming, scrolling) is important for both limiting breakoffs and maintaining high data quality for online surveys that are taken on smaller mobile devices such as tablets and smartphones that vary in both form factor and data input modes (e.g., physical keyboard vs. touch screen). Several online survey vendors such as Qualtrics now have the option of creating a mobile version of online surveys. Buskirk and Andrus (2012) refer to this as utilization of an “active” version of a mobile browser survey. This option requires only that the selected vendor or software incorporate the code to translate/optimise the survey content for mobile devices. A more technologically sophisticated approach involves creating unique apps for surveys. This has a number of advantages (e.g., no constant Internet connection needed, no scrolling/zooming, the ability to capture additional data such as GPS or video) but also incurs significant costs and requires technical expertise. Buskirk and Andrus (2012) also discuss an “app-like” hybrid that provides a balance of the various advantages and disadvantages of approaches to optimization. Although some of the development requirements may be out of reach for many centers, understanding the approaches is important. We would encourage optimization at the “active” level for all online surveys to address navigation burden and improve data quality.

SMS FOR RECRUITING, CUEING, OR REMINDERS

The CTIA mobile trade group reported that more than 171 billion text messages were sent each month in the U.S. in 2012. The explosion of short message service (SMS) capability over the last 10 years provides additional avenues for survey expansion, especially for targeted populations. Beyond using text messages for possible recruiting for more traditional survey formats, actual brief surveys can be fielded via SMS. Survey topics and populations have included children’s mobilities (using multiple daily texts for querying; Mikkelsen & Christiansen, 2009), patient surveys (Lee et al., 2013), and campus health surveillance surveys (Moore et al., 2013).

There are a growing number of commercial service providers that can assist with the use of SMS for survey applications (e.g., Clubtexting, Tell My Cell, Mobomix, Ez Texting). The majority of companies use a Web-based program, so a phone is not necessary. Contacts can be added to an account, added through social media such as Facebook, or respondents or panel members can text a keyword to a company to subscribe to an opt-in text list. The cost to the recipient depends on the plan they have with their mobile carrier. The cost to use the company for delivery of text messages is dependent on...
volume and frequency and length of text messages. Standard text messages have 130 characters while express messages have a maximum of 160 characters. One of the greatest challenges for SMS messaging is conveying a compelling message under such concise parameters.

NEW DATA SOURCES: SCIENCE FICTION NO MORE

Enhancing the meaning of interactions and better understanding behavior within place are both dimensions that have been targeted by the merging of traditional interview methods with GIS and visual data such as photographs and video. Skype can be used for virtual cognitive interviewing or even to conduct virtual face-to-face interviews (see Hill, Deane & Murphy, 2013; Jeannis, Terry, Heman-Ackah, & Price, 2013). A new tool called “iPowow” provides real-time digital interaction by providing overlays of questions and a voting sidebar on Web videos to gather viewer feedback as they are watching video delivered via Internet. Although not currently marketed for standard research purposes, similar platforms likely will be developed in the near future.

Mobile technologies such as smartphones and tablets increasingly include built-in sensors such as accelerometers, gyroscopes, and global positioning systems (GPS). These assessment tools can be utilized for data collection. The increased power and accessibility of mobile devices offer researchers a new set of tools that allow for instant and repeated data capture from people in their natural environments. For example, smartphone applications can be used by respondents to record experiences or interact with researchers during everyday life, camera and video capabilities can be used to capture ambient environmental parameters, and sensors embedded in smartphones can passively capture people’s movement and location, among other contextual factors (Heron, Johnson, & Smyth, 2013). Monitoring devices can take many forms, such as blood pressure cuffs, watches, rings, or pendants to monitor physical movements and wireless chest straps or clothing designed to monitor heart rate, respiration, and/or blood glucose. These ambulatory physiological tools generally allow for continuous monitoring without requiring the user to do anything. The data from these devices can be both stored on the device and uploaded directly through Bluetooth to collect data in real time (Heron, Johnson, & Smyth, 2013).

Pennsylvania State University researchers have developed a methodology that utilizes new technology to collect large amounts of data from people in their natural environment. The Dynamic Real-Time Ambulatory Methodology (DREAM) builds on the existing Ecological Momentary Assessment (EMA) framework using mobile technology to collect “in vivo” data from respondents. DREAM utilizes a resident app on provided smartphones to collect short surveys several times a day. Following the EMA tradition, this approach can use event-contingent sampling (e.g., completing a survey each time a smoker has a cigarette), interval contingent sampling (e.g., completing a survey and snapping a picture at breakfast, lunch, and dinner), or random signal-based sampling, where respondents are beeped/cued at random points during the day to report on their affect or behavior. With the new technology, these data also can be paired with ambulatory physical devices to provide multiple sources of rich within-person data.

CHALLENGES & ASSOCIATED QUESTIONS

The challenges to moving forward in the new technological landscape are many. To incorporate one or more new approaches, we need new expertise. The work requires considerable technical skills beyond sampling, questionnaire design, and analysis. Few of us know much about cutting-edge development of smartphone or tablet apps. When we find those who do have those skills, how do we translate our needs for social science applications? Sharing information and collaborating across centers will likely move us farther, and faster.

Costs in time and money are another significant unknown. What new equipment, programming, software, or outside vendor development costs are incurred for the variety of new tools that we might incorporate? Relationships with tech service providers will need to be forged. If we provide equipment and software/apps for a study, the hardware and software costs are considerable, and the equipment requires data plans. If we develop apps or have them created to use on participants’ own equipment, those costs, potential data plan fees, and the costs to maintain and troubleshoot the apps also become new lines in our project budgets. One question that must be asked is how do we know where to put the fulcrum in the cost/benefit analysis for a given project?

A further important challenge is to understand the privacy implications and potential risks when utilizing...
these new technologies and data transmission options. What assurances can we provide? What encryption is needed? Do we need more technological consultation before we understand the potential risks? How do we work with our IRBs to find the right balance as we reach participants in these new ways? If we begin utilizing Mechanical Turk services or virtual platforms like Second Life for some of our needs (e.g., usability testing, finding low-incidence populations), how do we maintain participant protections and keep risks low? The current framework for human protections was not built for these challenges. We will need to know more and think more about these issues so we can inform and assist the IRBs and other regulatory groups as they navigate these new terrains with us.

Perhaps the most daunting challenge is how to keep up with the constantly changing technology. The current lifecycle of each mobile operating system (OS) is less than two years. Developing software, apps, and protocols to keep up with changing technology can be a full-time developmental challenge for any organization. How can we help each other? Organizations like AAPOR and AASRO have a very important role to play in keeping members informed and offering assistance where possible.

**SETTING OFF**

We do not have the answers for what among these many new approaches and technologies we should be incorporating. We know that every center is different in terms of both its data collection needs and its resources. Beyond optimization of Web surveys (we believe everyone should be doing this), we do encourage the adoption and integration of one or more new technological approaches. A helpful framework for examining and embracing new technologies for data collection might be found in the “fit for purpose” idea put forth in the AAPOR Task Force on Nonprobability Sampling (Baker et al., 2013). By not focusing exclusively on which method or technology is the best one and more on which better fits our capacity and research questions, centers can begin a discussion and begin incorporating new tools. Once that happens, it is also critical that we execute formal studies and contribute to survey science scholarship so that we can share our understanding of the strengths and limitations of these new tools.

In order to avoid becoming relics, we must have serious discussions about these new frontiers, and we must make decisions now. The question is not whether to make the leap into the future but instead, what should be the focus of our embrace and how do we best get there. Wagons (and jetpacks) ho!

**REFERENCES**


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.

ILLINOIS

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The Public’s Take on Civil Liberties and Security. NORC Center for Public Affairs Research conducted a national survey of 1,008 Americans. The study presents new, in-depth data on American public opinion on the balance between civil liberties and security. The Center’s inaugural study, released on the 10-year anniversary of the September 11th attacks, provided seminal research on this balance. In light of recent events, including the public disclosure of several mass surveillance programs conducted by the U.S. government, the Center updated its civil liberties and security study to assess changes in public opinion and to collect new data on America’s policy preferences about where to draw the line between civil liberties and security. Project Director: Trevor Tompson, Senior Research Scientist: Jennifer Benz.

Evaluation Study Design for the Long-Term Care Ombudsman Program (LTCOP). NORC developed an evaluation study design to better understand and assess the effectiveness of the LTCOP for the Administration for Community Living. NORC assessed the evidence base on LTCOPs in order to develop recommendations for a rigorous and comprehensive study design that investigates program efficiency and program effectiveness at multiple levels, including the resident/family, facility, local/state/program, and federal levels. Key tasks involved the development of a family of logic models and a set of overarching research questions, as well as the identification of data collection tools and sources. Project Director: Timothy Mulcahy.

Long-Term Care: Perceptions and Attitudes among Americans 40 or Older. With funding from the SCAN Foundation, the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research conducted a national survey of 1,019 adults at least 40 years old. It focused on understanding the experiences and attitudes of this population as they begin to plan for their own care and interact with the long-term care system to provide care for loved ones. The survey examined their understanding of the long-term care system, their perceptions and misperceptions regarding the likelihood of needing long-term care services and of the cost of those services, and their attitudes and behaviors regarding planning for long-term care. Project Director: Trevor Tompson, Senior Research Scientist: Jennifer Benz.

Nationwide Adult Medicaid Consumer Assessment of Healthcare Providers and Systems (CAHPS). The CAHPS survey, sponsored by the Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, will capture baseline national- and state-level estimates of adult Medicaid enrollees’ experiences with the health care system in 2014, when many Affordable Care Act (ACA) provisions take effect. NORC and its partner Thoroughbred Research Group will draw a sample of approximately 1.5 million Medicaid enrollees nationwide and administer a multimode CAHPS questionnaire consisting of a written questionnaire with telephone follow-up. The study is the first of its kind to provide a standardized way of collecting and analyzing Medicaid enrollee data by state. Results from this study will provide baseline information on the experiences of low-income adults during the early stages of ACA implementation and assist CMS’s and states’ efforts to improve health care for Medicaid enrollees. Co-project Directors: Stephen Smith and Michelle Strollo.

Oral Health Evidence-Based Models Toolkit. The Health Resources and Services Administration Office of Rural Health Policy funded rural communities to develop community-based oral health programs as part of the 330A Outreach Authority program, which focuses on reducing health disparities and expanding health care services in rural areas. The study focused on reviewing the experiences of rural oral health programs in the field to identify “model” programs. NORC identified evidence-based models and promising practices that may benefit
the 330A Outreach Authority Program grantees, documented the scope of their use in the field, built an Oral Health Evidence-Based Models Toolkit (available on the Community Health Gateway of the Rural Assistance Center Web site at raconline.org), and wrote a promising practices issue brief for rural communities that are interested in improving access to oral health services. Co-project Directors: Alycia Bayne and Alana Knudson.

Resilience in the Wake of Superstorm Sandy. With funding from the Rockefeller Foundation, the Associated Press-NORC Center for Public Affairs Research conducted a national survey of 2,025 individuals including an oversample of 1,007 interviews with residents in the NY and NJ region affected by Superstorm Sandy. The survey had two central objectives: (1) to systematically measure the impact of the storm on individuals and neighborhoods and to assess the level of recovery six months after the storm and (2) to learn how neighborhood characteristics and social factors relate to recovery and resilience. Project Director: Trevor Tompson, Senior Research Scientist: Jennifer Benz.

State-Specific Design Parameters for Designing Better Evaluation Studies. The Institute of Education Sciences is funding this NORC project that uses State Longitudinal Data Systems to estimate variance components and intraclass correlations for use in multilevel study designs in education. Having plausible values of intraclass correlations is essential to planning how many schools and students are needed for an evaluation design. This project is a continuation of efforts to provide guidance on these parameters to the research community. Whereas previous work used national probability samples to estimate these parameters, the current project uses state data and already has produced new methods of calculating standard errors for intraclass correlations and a codebase to enact these calculations. Principal Investigator: Larry Hedges, Project Director: Eric Hedberg.

Food Distribution Program on Indian Reservations (FDPIR). The U.S. Dept. of Agriculture’s Food and Nutrition Service has contracted with The Urban Institute and its partners NORC and Support Services International to conduct a nationally representative study of FDPIR. NORC will conduct a case record review of 832 participants in 25 programs and field a household survey. Topics include demographic characteristics, economic hardship, food access barriers and costs, participation in food assistance programs, and nutrition education. Survey design and sampling were completed in 2012. Consultations with tribal leaders took place in 2012–2013. Outreach and data collection will begin in late 2013. The final report will be disseminated in 2014. Project Director: Carol Hafford, Principal Investigator: Nancy Pindus (The Urban Institute).

Togo Service Delivery Indicators (Health). For the World Bank project on Service Delivery Indicators (SDI), NORC will collect data, produce a clean data set, deliver a country report, and create a data archive for assessing service delivery among health clinics in Togo. The SDI is a set of 20 indicators designed to examine the availability of staff and resources in the health and education sectors in over a dozen African countries via in-depth surveys of clinic/school management as well as individual clinicians and teachers. The questionnaire employs diagnostic “vignettes” to assess the skills and training of randomly selected health clinic workers. The evaluation of clinician skill using vignettes requires intensive interviewer training but provides valuable information on providers’ capabilities that would be difficult to collect otherwise. Project Director: Sarah Hughes.

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Passionate on Parallel (POP): Research Experience for Undergraduate Women. SRL assisted in conducting an evaluation of the 2012 POP Research Experiences for Undergraduates Program at the Univ. of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. SRL conducted both group discussions and a quantitative survey with participating students to obtain their feedback on the program. The discussion and surveys were conducted once at the start of the program and again at the end of the program to obtain participant evaluations of specific aspects of the program. Project Coordinator: Sowmya Anand.

Mechanism of Azithromycin Activity in Pseudomonas Infections. For this study examining the mechanism by which azithromycin improves survival in patients infected with Pseudomonas aerugi-
nosa, SRL conducted statistical analyses searching for an association between bacterial invasiveness and patient outcomes. Principal Investigator: Alan Hauser (Northwestern University), Project Coordinator: Linda Owens.

Blended Learning Initiative. SRL analyzed data collected by the Office of External Education regarding blended learning initiatives at UIC. The final deliverable was an analytic report. Principal Investigator: Mary Niemiec (External Education, UIUC), Project Coordinator: Linda Owens.

Academic Review of the Social Science Literature on Climate Change. SRL assisted applied social science research firm The Strategy Team Ltd. with compiling literature to understand how existing social science research can be leveraged to inform policy and action to help people understand the causes and consequences of climate change. SRL also assisted with writing summaries of these publications and preparing a report on the literature reviewed. Project Coordinator: Sowmya Anand.

Chicago Police Department (CPD) Evaluation. This MacArthur Foundation funded project was part of an evaluation of the CPD Superintendent’s new procedural justice initiative and related changes being planned by CPD. A representative sampling of officers in all 23 police districts was conducted; sampled officers completed a self-administered questionnaire in their home district on laptop computers. A total of 720 interviews were completed. Principal Investigator: Wes Skogan (Northwestern University), Project Coordinator: Jennifer Parsons.

Survey of Illinois School Principals. The purpose of this project was to conduct follow-up phone interviews with schools that were invited to participate in the 2011–12 Illinois Youth Survey (IYS) to determine the schools’ experiences with state-funded school-based adolescent surveys. The three categories of schools of interest were (1) schools that took part in the 2011–12 IYS, (2) schools that actively refused to participate in the IYS, and (3) schools who never responded one way or the other to the invitation to take part in the IYS. Of the 159 schools included in the sample, 36 completed the full questionnaire, while 45 were able to provide partial information. Principal Investigators: Peter Mulhall and Beth Welbes (Center for Prevention Research and Development, UIUC), Project Coordinator: Sowmya Anand.

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Arts Participation Survey. The Survey Lab is working with NORC to collect data about arts participation in California. The Survey Lab will conduct approximately 1,200 telephone interviews from cell, RDD, and list samples. Funded by the Irvine Foundation, the study goal is to better understand arts participation within the cultural ecology of California. Principal Investigator: Michael Reynolds, Project Manager: Tiana Pyer-Pereira.

Teenage Pregnancy Prevention Evaluation. The Survey Lab just completed the third of six waves of data collection with Chapin Hall and Chicago Public Schools as part of the evaluation of CPS's Teen Pregnancy Prevention Initiative. The Lab's role in the evaluation is administering surveys in classrooms of 44 schools that are part of a randomized control study in Chicago neighborhoods with the highest rates of teen pregnancy. Survey data analysis will supplement classroom observation and administrative data analysis conducted by Chapin Hall. Principal Investigator: Roopa Seshadri, Project Manager: Hillary Hanson.

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National Institute for Learning Outcomes Assessment (NILOA) Chief Academic Officer Survey. CSR recently fielded the NILOA's 2013 survey in collaboration with the Indiana University Center for Postsecondary Research. The survey, first established in 2008, was administered on behalf of NILOA and aims to identify and disseminate ways that academic institutions can use assessment data internally to inform and strengthen undergraduate education and externally to communicate with policy makers, families, and other stakeholders. The NILOA survey targets senior academic officers at accredited two- and four-year colleges and universities in the U.S. and asks them about undergraduate assessment practices on their campuses. The
mixed-mode administration involved Web and mail data collection and follow-up telephone calls. This protocol yielded just over 1,100 completions and a response rate of 40.7% (AAPOR RR1). Principal Investigator: Jillian Kinzie, Project Director: Stacey Giroux.

MASSACHUSETTS

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2014 Employer Health Insurance. This is a mail and Web survey of 1,500 Massachusetts employers with 3+ employees. It continues a series of such surveys that began in 2003 and will be the seventh iteration. It tracks who does and does not offer insurance to employees, the types offered, offer rates, take-up rates, costs, deductibles, and many other insurance-related statistics. It began before Massachusetts instituted health care reform in 2006 and 2007 and continued through the development and implementation of the Massachusetts law. This year, what happens in response to the onset of the Affordable Care Act will be a focus of the survey. This survey is funded by the Massachusetts Center for Health Information and Analysis. Study Director: Tony Roman.

Transition from Child-Focused to Adult-Focused Care. To create a survey to assess the transition of children with chronic health conditions from pediatric- to adult-focused medicine, CSR conducted 13 focus group interviews with young adults age 16–25 and their parents, drafted a self-administered survey to be completed by 16- and 17-year-old respondents, and explored participants’ response to the survey through several rounds of cognitive interviews. In group interviews conducted in Los Angeles, Chicago, and Boston, CSR found that the transition was frequently unplanned and unexpected, leaving many young adults with anxiety about where to go for care and how to find new physicians. CSR currently is completing a pilot test of the survey among patients at clinics at Children’s Hospital Boston. CSR is coordinating surveys among Medicaid beneficiaries in two states. The survey results will be used to provide feedback to health care providers to improve the process of coordinating medical care as patients transition to adult-focused medicine. Funded by AHRQ and CMS. Principal Investigator: Mark Schuster (Dept. of Medicine, Children’s Hospital Boston), Study Director: Lee Hargraves.

Use and Perceptions of Dissolvable Tobacco Products. Starting in 2012, CSR collaborated with investigators at the Wake Forest School of Medicine to design a postal survey of young adults in three metropolitan areas in which new dissolvable tobacco products were being test-marketed: Charlotte, NC; Denver; and Topeka, KS. The goals are to understand the extent to which individuals age 18–35 are being exposed to the marketing of these products, whether they are using them, and how harmful they are seen to be in comparison to cigarettes. We are now completing data collection of a dual-frame list and address-based sample with expected returns from about 4,200 eligible respondents. The study is funded by NCI. Principal Investigator: Mark Wolfson (Wake Forest University), Study Director: Lois Biener.

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Impact of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (Transcript Study) Project. The Education and Well-Being Program, SRC, partnered with the UM Ford

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School to collect 10 years' of student course-taking and achievement data from a stratified random sample of 150 Michigan public high schools. We currently have 107 schools committed to participate and provide data; we continue our outreach and data collection efforts with the remaining schools. Data is sought for a 10-year period covering cohorts of students attending high school before (2001–06) and after (2007–12) the implementation of the Michigan Merit Curriculum (MMC). We also request historical course catalogs from participating schools, which frequently requires field staff to visit and procure these materials from school personnel. The purpose of the study is to determine if the MMC has impacted students' graduation and college-attendance rates (and further, if the MMC has had a differential impact among different groups of students). Funding source: Institute of Education Sciences (NCES). Principal Investigators: Brian Jacob and Susan Dynarski (UM Ford School of Public Policy), Project Manager: Karin Schneider.

The Army Study to Assess Risk and Resilience in Service Members. This study, funded by the U.S. Army and the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH), is designed to identify modifiable risk and protective factors for suicidal behavior to help inform the Army’s ongoing efforts to prevent suicide and improve soldiers’ overall psychological health and functioning. The investigators are from the Univ. of Michigan, Harvard Medical School, Uniformed Services University of the Health Sciences, and NIMH. The study evaluates representative samples of soldiers across all phases of Army service. Over 100,000 interviews have been collected using mobile, stand-alone networks of laptop computers with group SAQ interviews; a follow-up study of 9,000 participants is underway using Web and phone interviews. Blood has been collected from over 42,000 soldiers, and neurocognitive tests are included in several of the study components. Survey Directors: Nancy Gebler and Lisa Holland.

Health and Daily Life (DUST 2013). The objective of this study is to produce a rich and nationally focused data archive to support innovative research on disability, time use, and well-being for both single individuals and married and partnered couples age 60+. The sample was chosen from participants in the 2013 Panel Study of Income Dynamics. This research will provide focused analyses of an important but understudied group—middle-age and older individuals facing functional decline. The goal is to complete two daily activity diary interviews by phone with respondents in approximately 1,515 households. In married and partnered households, each member of the couple will be interviewed about their day’s activities. The first diary interview contains some additional attitude and background questions and takes about 50 minutes to complete. The second interview is mostly diary questions and takes only 30 minutes to complete. The project is sponsored and funded by the National Institute on Aging. Principal Investigators: Vicki Freedman, Suzanne Bianchi, and Richard Lucas; Survey Director: Robert Lee.

Transition to Adulthood (TA 2013). This is one of the component studies of the Panel Study of Income Dynamics—a national study of families begun in 1968. TA interviews young adults age 18–28. TA’s respondent cohort “grew” out of the Child Development Supplement (CDS) study conducted in 1997 with families and children ranging from newborn to 12 years old. As CDS children become adults and finish high school, they enter the transitional period of acquiring higher education, starting careers, and becoming heads of their own families. Conducted by phone, the survey covers nearly all aspects of young adults’ lives and includes measures of time use, psychological functioning, marriage, family, responsibilities, employment and income, education and career goals, health, social environment, religiosity, and outlook on life. Approximately 2,100 respondents will be interviewed as part of this fifth wave. Principal Investigators: Narayan Sastry and Katherine McGonagle, Project Manager: Piotr Dworak.

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Recycle it Forward. Wilder Research conducted a comprehensive assessment of St. Paul’s recycling and waste management system to further the City’s understanding of recycling and waste disposal knowledge, behavior, and preferences among St. Paul residents. This assessment included a self-administered instrument that was mailed to a
sample of 7,000 St. Paul residents and competed by 1,285 residents. To gather the perspectives of experienced professionals in the fields of recycling, composting, and trash collection, 13 semi-structured interviews were conducted with a variety of key stakeholders that were identified by the City. A series of six focus groups, one with representatives of the St. Paul District Councils and five with different groups of St. Paul residents, also were conducted to gather additional qualitative data from specific population groups. The results of this study were used to inform the Mayor’s newest budget, and the City has rolled out a comprehensive plan to address all of the recommendations from the study. Principal investigator: Cael Warren.

Minnesota Supportive Housing Outcomes Study. Wilder Research partnered with supportive housing providers, planners, funders, and advocates to conduct a statewide study of the outcomes of supportive housing programs, including both transitional housing and permanent supportive housing for formerly homeless people. The study will provide a comprehensive picture of the overall state of supportive housing in Minnesota and improve our understanding of how differences in program type are related to differences in client needs or service models. This was a longitudinal study in which Wilder Research completed up to four phone interviews with supportive housing residents over a two-year time period. Over this data collection period, Wilder Research completed 1,895 telephone interviews with 581 different respondents. Phone interviews also were conducted with 51 program directors to collect more detailed information on program service models. Principal investigators: Greg Owen and Ellen Shelton.

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Orleans Parrish Food Environment Survey. SRL recently completed data collection for this survey. The data will be used by the Prevention Research Center (PRC) at Tulane University to better understand the grocery shopping and eating habits of individuals living in Orleans Parrish, Louisiana. PRC researchers also will assess parish residents’ access to fresh fruit and vegetables. This telephone-based survey includes a representative sample of 3,000 households in Orleans Parrish.

NEW HAMPSHIRE

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Boston Globe 38, September 2013. Seven-hundred and four (704) randomly selected Boston adults were interviewed by landline and cell phone September 5–12, 2013. The poll was conducted to determine voter attitudes regarding Boston’s upcoming mayoral election. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 3.7%. Included is a subsample of 411 likely voters (margin of sampling error +/- 4.8%). Principal Investigator: Andrew Smith.

Boston Globe 39, October 2013. Seven-hundred and twenty (720) randomly selected Boston adults were interviewed by landline and cell phone October 17–22, 2013. The poll was conducted to determine voter attitudes regarding Boston’s upcoming mayoral election. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/- 3.7%. Included is a subsample of 465 likely voters (margin of sampling error +/- 4.5%). Principal Investigator: Andrew Smith.

Granite State Poll 50, October, 2013. Six hundred and sixty-three (663) randomly selected New Hampshire adults were interviewed by landline and cell phone October 7–16, 2013. The Granite State Poll is a quarterly survey of public opinion in New Hampshire. This study was conducted to determine present attitudes concerning the New Hampshire political environment, public policy, and consumer confidence in the state. The margin of sampling error for the survey is +/-3.8%. Principal Investigator: Andrew Smith.
NEW JERSEY

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Affordable Care Act (ACA) Implementation.
SRC is starting a new project with the New Jersey Business and Industry Association that will examine how businesses throughout the state are preparing for ACA implementation. The first survey will be fielded in the spring of 2014 to be followed by another after the January 2015 implementation.

NORTH CAROLINA

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Split Questionnaire Design for Reduction of Nonresponse and Measurement Error. This NSF-funded project is allowing RTI International to experimentally evaluate the impact of survey length on nonresponse and measurement error. The study assesses the ability to reduce error through a split questionnaire design in which respondents are asked only a subset of the questions and responses to the omitted questions are multiply imputed, yielding complete data sets with all variables. Co-principal Investigators: Andy Peytchev, Trivellore Raghunathan, and Emilia Peytcheva.

World Trade Center (WTC) Medical Monitoring and Treatment Program. RTI International provides technical assistance for the New York Fire Department’s WTC Clinical Center of Excellence. RTI consults on analyses of claims and prescription drug data collected through the program, conducts quality assurance activities, and develops an interactive codebook for use with the data. RTI conducts outreach and tracing activities to maximize inclusion in the program. Project Director: Paul Pulliam.

The 2015–16 National Postsecondary Student Aid Study (NPSAS:16) and Postsecondary Longitudinal Study. RTI will conduct a series of administrative data collections and student interviews...
for the National Center for Education Statistics that will provide information on the costs of postsecondary education and how students and their families meet those costs; the paths beginning students take through postsecondary education; persistence and degree attainment in postsecondary education; and students’ education and work experiences after earning the bachelor’s degree. Project Director: Jennifer Wine.

TEXAS

Center for Community Research & Development (CCRD)
Baylor University
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CCRD recently conducted focus groups for two different organizations in the community. One interviewed current college students to investigate how students use e-textbooks compared to paper textbooks, as well as positive and negative experiences students had with e-textbooks. The other interviewed cancer patients about their medical and emotional needs during cancer treatment and asked for suggestions regarding how a local healthcare provider could best address their concerns. Finally, CCRD generated over 50 index maps within the U.S. using GIS software for a national client.

WYOMING

Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center (WYSAC)
University of Wyoming
Dept. 3925, 1000 E. University Ave., Laramie, WY 82071
307-760-3459; fax: 307-766-2759
bistra@uwyo.edu

Montana Adult Tobacco Survey, 2012–13. The survey is sanctioned by the CDC and conducted on RDD samples augmented by cell phone samples as CDC protocols now dictate. Over 4,600 telephone interviews were conducted on samples stratified by three geographic regions. Principal Investigator: Brian Harnisch, Project Director: Bistra Anatchkova.

Wyoming Dept. of Transportation (WYDOT)
Attitudes and Awareness Survey, 2013. In summer 2013, WYSAC conducted the fourth iteration of the annual drivers survey. The survey’s purpose is to measure the effect of WYDOT’s media campaign designed to improve driving behaviors with regard to speeding, safety belts, and drinking and driving. Using a dual sampling frame of landline and cell phone telephone numbers, the 2013 effort resulted in over 700 completed interviews. Trend analyses were conducted to analyze changes over
time. **Principal Investigator:** Brian Harnisch; **Project Director:** Bistra Anatchkova.

**CANADA**

Institute for Social Research (ISR)
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Legal Problems of Everyday Life. Civil justice concerns noncriminal disagreements between individuals and between individuals and companies—e.g., serious problems with major purchases, dealing with prejudice, receiving poor or incorrect medical treatment, problems with employers or neighbours, family issues relating to child custody and wills. For some people, civil justice problems have considerable financial, health, and social costs. This current study will determine the number of civil justice problems in Canada, make comparison to earlier national and international studies, and examine the costs to individuals as well as to society for these problems. In the fall and winter of 2013–14, ISR will complete 3,000 telephone interviews with randomly selected adult Canadians across all provinces as well as 300 shorter interviews with cell phone users. Undertaken on behalf of the Canadian Forum on Civil Justice at York University (www.cfcj-fcjc.org), this study is designed to help make the justice system fairer, easier to use, less costly, and more effective. **Principal Investigator:** Les Jacobs (Osgoode Hall Law School and ISR Acting Director), **Study Director:** David Northrup.

**PERSONNEL NOTES**

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.

The Survey Research Laboratory at the Univ. of Illinois at Chicago would like to congratulate Associate Director for Research Programs Jennifer Parsons, a recipient of 2013 CAPE Award. The Chancellor’s Academic Professional Excellence (CAPE) Award acknowledges the demonstrated excellence of academic professionals, and each winner receives a $1,000 permanent salary increase.

The Indiana University Center for Survey Research (CSR) is pleased to announce new roles for two current staff members who are instrumental to the Center’s research activities. Heather Terhune Marti is a long-time Study Director at the CSR and recently had her position classified into a higher level by the university. Barb Gelwick was promoted to Senior Systems Analyst Programmer.

NORC’s Research Programs welcome Senior Fellow Rolf Blank (Education and Child Development Studies), Senior Fellow Christopher Hoenig (Economics, Labor, and Population Studies), Senior Research Scientist Alison Laffan (Health Care Research), and Senior Research Scientist Vi-Nhuan Le (Education and Child Development Studies).

Joseph Joachim, Rosevita Majani, and Kenan Mwansasu have joined RTI’s Research Computing Division as ICT Support Assistants. In RTI’s Education and Workforce Development Division, Jason Boyte has joined as a Senior Web Designer, Thien Lam has joined as an Education Services Communications Specialist, Julie Lee has joined as an Administrative and Facilities Operations Coordinator, and Christina Stearns has joined as an Education Analyst.

**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 lrmccall@uic.edu. Survey Research does not charge a fee for these postings.

RTI International’s Research Computing Division is looking for a **Research Scientist in Cyber Security**. A fundamental understanding of cyber security issues and technologies, experience with interdisciplinary research, and demonstrated excellent verbal and written communication skills are essential. Duties include participating in and potentially leading projects, collaborating on research, contributing to and leading proposals for new funding in cyber security research, participating in marketing and business development activities, and contributing to RTI’s scientific stature through publications and eternal presentations. Qualifications include...
an M.S. and 6 years of experience or Ph.D. (preferred) in Computer Science or related discipline and 1+ year of experience in Cyber Security Research; research experience utilizing large security-related data sets; experience procuring grants and participating in the proposal process; communication skills that include the ability to provide formal documentation and oral presentations of research results; and record of publications. Must be a U.S. citizen to qualify. To view the entire job requisition, please go to www.rti.org/careers and search for job #14826.

The Wyoming Survey and Analysis Center at the Univ. of Wyoming is looking for someone energetic and highly motivated with experience in survey administration to fill an immediate job opening for an **Assistant Research Scientist**. Essential duties include supervision and help with the management of WYSAC’s call center, assisting with the administration of large-scale mail and mixed-mode surveys, processing collected data using SPSS, and preparing data outputs for inclusion in reports for clients and PowerPoint presentations to clients. Duties may include survey/questionnaire design, report writing, presentation of survey results to clients, and conference presentations. Responsibilities also may include assistance in preparation of manuscripts for publication. Minimum qualifications: bachelor’s degree in a social science, applied statistics, or a related discipline, along with strong applied research skills, statistical data analysis competence, and methodological knowledge applicable to survey research and survey administration; experience understanding the logistics of telephone survey administration and mail/Web survey administration; demonstrated supervisory skills; 1–3 years of experience in a survey research/call center setting; and ability to work collaboratively with colleagues and clients in an entrepreneurial environment. Experience with Ci3 and/or Teleform, and/or Qualtrics is expected. A master’s degree is a plus. Salary and rank are competitive and will be commensurate with experience and qualifications. Research Scientists are considered to be academic professionals in the university’s personnel system and receive salaries and full benefits consistent with those provided to other faculty at the university. Applicants should submit an electronic letter of application that details academic and research experience related to this position, a resume, names and contact information for three references, and a copy of graduate transcript(s) if available to Brian Harnisch, Search Committee Chair; Wyoming Survey & Analysis Center; University of Wyoming; Department 3925, 1000 E. University Ave.; Laramie, WY 82071. Phone: (307) 766-6103, fax: (307) 766-2759, e-mail: harnisch@uwyo.edu. Additional information is available at http://wysac.uwyo.edu/wysac/Jobs.aspx

**PUBLICATIONS**

The following is a list of publications related to survey research. They are not available from Survey Research nor the Survey Research Laboratory.


Survey Research 14

Number 3, 2013


Survey Research
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CHANGE SERVICE REQUESTED

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Survey Research is published three times a year and serves as a clearinghouse for information about academic and not-for-profit survey research organizations around the world. Permission to reprint material is granted provided that the source is cited.

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