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of "right and wrong". The decision by the Gore legal team to
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many that there was a true 14th amendment problem. At the same time they
eventually cut their own throats by extending the protest phase and
necessarily contracting the inviolate December 12th date as recognized by the Florida Supreme Court. Contrast that with the simple strategy of pursuing all under votes in all counties from day one and insisting on a definition of "clear voter intent". The Gore legal political team didn't believe they could win that battle and ran out the clock on themselves. They further compounded the problem in Broward and Palm Beach by clearly delineating the fact that there was no one standard and showed that to the world again in Dade.

What you have here is a typical case of winning and losing legal strategies which fortunately the USSC recognized in the 7-2 judgement and 5 judges had the guts to recognize it for what it was and called an end to it before it went to Congress to decide.

-----Original Message-----
From: James P. Murphy [mailto:jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com]
Sent: Sunday, December 31, 2000 1:23 PM
To: jwerner@jwdp.com; aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Two Wrongs

The Martin and Seminole cases were orchestrated by Gore supporters on his behalf. He had to maintain a distance from them because they were contrary to his primary argument at the time. As the end approached, Gore was quoted as expressing interest in the results of the FSC appeals (of those cases) as his deus ex machina. The cases appeared to be without merit from the beginning but you can give the Democrats the benefit of the doubt on the possibility that serious irregularities might have been uncovered during the trials. When that did not happen, the decision to further appeal to a sympathetic FSC revealed their strategy for what it was.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
Voice (610) 408-8800
Fax (610) 408-8802
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com
-----Original Message-----
From: Jan Werner <jwerner@jwdp.com>
I can't tell if this message is an attempt at spin or a display of ignorance.

"...reversed the decision of a respected Democratic lower court judge..." As was reported extensively at the time, the FSSC had previously severely rebuked judge Sauls in words that came close to questionning his qualifications for the job, and there was no love lost between them. Further, judge Sauls was also known around Tallahassee as a "Good 'Ol Boy," like many of the former "Southern Democrats" that now form the bedrock of radical Republicanism in the Old South.

Further, not only did Gore not participate in the original Martin and Seminole cases, but he refused to support their appeal, against the wishes of his chief counsel David Boies, on the grounds that all votes should be counted, whether for him or against him. Whether Gore was sincere in this or not, you cannot accuse him of being a hypocrite for supporting those appeals.

It's one thing to be partisan, it's another to have no idea what you are talking about.

Jan Werner

"James P. Murphy" wrote:

The FSC, by a single vote -- and with a strongly worded dissent from its chief justice (which was later endorsed in part by seven members of the USSC) reversed the decision of a respected Democratic lower court judge who had conducted a trial on the matter. I don't think that anyone on the Republican side feels there were "two wrongs" -- unless you count some of the other highly questionable but very revealing actions of the Gore side -- such as appealing the Martin and Seminole county decisions to the FSC. They lost all credibility with those actions, which were only minimally discussed against the backdrop of bigger news breaking at the same time.
Am I missing something. Are you really arguing that two wrongs make a right?

At 11:32 PM 12/29/00 -0500, you wrote:
The high court would not have had to interfere if the Florida Supreme Court had not been so nakedly partisan, itself. It's a shame that so many blame W.

and the Republicans for trying to keep the process within legal limits.

Warren Mitofsky
********************
Mitofsky International
> 1 East 53rd Street - 5th Floor
> New York, NY 10022

212 980-3031
212 980-3107 FAX

From andy@troll.soc.qc.edu Mon Jan 1 08:56:04 2001
Received: from elf.soc.qc.edu (elf.soc.qc.edu [149.4.70.237])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id IAA24583 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 08:56:03 -0800
(PST)
Received: from troll.soc.qc.edu (troll [149.4.70.239])
  by elf.soc.qc.edu (8.9.3+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id LAA08697
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 11:55:58 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (andy@localhost)
  by troll.soc.qc.edu (8.9.3+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id LAA11127
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 11:55:58 -0500 (EST)
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 11:55:57 -0500 (EST)
From: Andrew Beveridge <andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Two Wrongs
In-Reply-To: <FCDC58EC0F22D4119F0800A0C9E589950691@exchange.chep.udel.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.05.10101011138250.11092-100000@troll.soc.qc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

James Murphy writes:

These descriptions of events being either right or wrong are improperly categorized. These are a series of judgements made by imperfect people exercising there on views of "right and wrong". The decision by the Gore legal team to exploit a few democratic counties was seriously flawed and exacerbated the feeling
by many that there was a true 14th amendment problem. At the same time they eventually cut their own throats by extending the protest phase and necessarily contracting the inviolate December 12th date as recognized by the Florida Supreme Court. Contrast that with the simple strategy of pursuing all under votes in all counties from day one and insisting on a definition of "clear voter intent".

The problem with this analysis is simple:

1) As Ronald Dworkin makes plain in the current New York Review of Books, the "voter intent" standard is set to make it possible to handle the various contingencies that might arise. Even states like Texas which use a "pregnant or dimpled chad" standard leave voter intent as a catchall. But the real problem is that if the Florida Supreme Court had imposed a standard, the Bush legal team would have rightly argued that they did it after the fact and it had no legislative back-up.

2) The December 12th date was not inviolate.

Obviously, looking at all of the undervotes is what should have happened before Bush was declared President, but this was blocked by the Supremes.

As the Gore team presciently observed in their brief:

In the end, notwithstanding fears as to how "counting of [the] votes" may "cast[] a cloud upon what [Governor Bush] claims to be the legitimacy of his election," Bush v. Gore, No. 00-949 (A-504), Slip op. at 2 (Dec. 9, 2000) (Scalia, J., concurring), there can be little doubt that a count of the still uncounted votes, as the Florida Supreme Court ordered in this case, will eventually occur. The only question is whether these votes will be counted before the Electoral College meets to select the next President, or whether this Court will instead relegate them to be counted only by scholars and researchers under Florida's sunshine laws, after the next President is elected. Nothing in federal law, the United States Constitution, or the opinions of this Court compel it to choose the second course over the first.

The Miami Herald is doing the job. Probably gunning for a Pulitzer. It will certainly keep alive the issues of ballot reform into the next administration.
Andy Beveridge

The Florida Supreme Court did argue in their last opinions that to proceed beyond December 12th would violate the clear intent of the legislature and would violate the US Constitution. For that reason the Leon County judge in the case ordered compliance by I believe 6pm Sunday the 10th, a date that would have precluded the count in counties such as Duval which as of Sunday still did not have the ability to separate the under votes. That only contributed further to a possible 14th amendment problem.

As to "voter intent" the operative word is "clear" as in "clear voter intent". There is no problem in county-wide elections with using the determination of the canvassing board for that county since the standard is the same. To say that differential treatment by county boards in a statewide election is equivalent is to say we should not worry about inter-interviewer bias. Clearly, these errors in this election in Florida had the potential to be larger than the vote that was being measured e.g. Broward vs. Palm Beach.

As to the Gore legal team's whining, it has little relevance. One will never be able to conclude that a result determined in a month's of study under alternative modes of
counting, will ever resolve the question as to the result that could have been
achieved by the 12th of December.
To suggest that there is an equivalency seems a bit of a reach.

It was a tie and the better legal team won!

Ed Ratledge

>From andy@troll.soc.qc.edu Mon Jan  1 09:53:19 2001
Received: from elf.soc.qc.edu (elf.soc.qc.edu [149.4.70.237])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id JAA02479 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 09:53:18 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from troll.soc.qc.edu (troll [149.4.70.239])
    by elf.soc.qc.edu (8.9.3+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id MAA08732
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 12:53:13 -0500 (EST)
Received: from localhost (andy@localhost)
    by troll.soc.qc.edu (8.9.3+Sun/8.9.1) with ESMTP id MAA11234
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 12:53:12 -0500 (EST)
Date: Mon, 1 Jan 2001 12:53:12 -0500 (EST)
From: Andrew Beveridge <andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Two Wrongs
In-Reply-To: <FCDC5BEC0F22D4119F0800AOC9EB589950693@exchange.chep.udel.edu>
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.05.10101011250260.11222-100000@troll.soc.qc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

Dear All:

It is interesting that nowhere in any Ratledge, Murphy et al GOP verbiage is there
any discussion of the fact that Katherine Harris could have easily ordered a hand
recount. It would have been well within her discretion, and she could have set the
standards.

>  
> It was a tie and the better legal team won!

I guess you mean Scalia, Rehnquist, Thomas, O'Connor and Kennedy vs. Souter, Ginsberg, Stevens, and Breyer.

>  
> Ed Ratledge  
>
>

>From jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com Mon Jan  1 18:03:56 2001
Received: from carriage.chesco.com (carriage.chesco.com [209.195.192.2])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id SAA24306 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 1 Jan 2001 18:03:55 -0800
    (PST)
No big deal but you incorrectly attributed the comment of Edward Ratledge to me.

James P. Murphy, Ph.D.
Voice (610) 408-8800
Fax (610) 408-8802
jpmurphy@jpmurphy.com

-----Original Message-----
From: Andrew Beveridge <andy@troll.soc.qc.edu>
To: 'aapornet@usc.edu' <aapornet@usc.edu>
Date: Monday, January 01, 2001 11:56 AM
Subject: RE: Two Wrongs

> James Murphy writes:
> >
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categorized. These are a series of judgements made by imperfect people
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The Miami Herald is doing the job. Probably gunning for a Pulitzer. It will certainly keep alive the issues of ballot reform into the next administration.

Andy Beveridge

A feature in Sunday's Washington Post, reproduced at the end of this comment, brought to mind an exchange about two weeks ago with Howard Schuman. He seemed a bit peeved by how I responded to his recent request to AAPORNET:
Can someone point me to recent (1999 or 2000) data on what Americans know. . . .

I felt he should have phrased his request in a way that acknowledged how little can be known about what people know without differentiating between recall, recognition and reproduction and without specifying how the cognitive task is structured as well as the context in which it is attempted.

Since "cognitive factors in survey research" have become a thriving little industry, there is less excuse for dissemination of ignorant research that adds to the stock of what people know that ain't so about what people know and don't.

I think the following item by Richard Morin in the Washington Post today deserves to be the target of my last carping comment of the millennium.

Albert D. Biderman
abider@american.edu

> People Are Ignorant -- Get Over It
> Sunday, December 31, 2000; Page B05
> © 2000 The Washington Post Company
>
> Jeremy Knowles, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences at Harvard University, says he isn't too troubled by recent reports that Americans don't know much about American history. That's because he is never shocked by the "average levels of knowledge in almost any field," Knowles wrote in a campus e-mail published by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni in its latest newsletter.
>
> Knowles's e-mail continued: "Did you know that 60 percent of adults in France do not know who painted the Mona Lisa? Or that in this country, 27 percent of adults think that the sun goes around the Earth, and 36 percent believe that radioactivity is made safe by boiling it?"
>
> Your Unconventional Wiz is not comforted. But he is amused.

Re: What Americans say they know about events

On Fri, 22 Dec 2000, Howard Schuman wrote:
Can someone point me to recent (1999 or 2000) data on what Americans know, or at least say they know, about different events and people of the past couple of years? For example, what percentage can identify Monica Lewinsky as against the percentage that can identify Putin? And similar indicators of attention to news of different kinds.

Thanks, Howard

Why does it take so long to count a few ballots? In British elections the 'bank clerks' count 30 million votes overnight, including recounts where either the winning vote is close, or other candidates are threatened with loss of their deposit from getting fewer than 5% of the vote.

I mentioned this in my lecture to a seminar at the LSE recently, the students being mid-career Indian civil servants, among others. They were unimpressed; they count 300 million in a couple of days.

A solution to the Florida recount would have been to load a 747 full of British bank clerks together with one Returning Officer (an agent of the Crown), not seven, not nine, fly them from Heathrow over to Florida, and count the damn things, the parties observing the validity of the count. Any spoilt (as they say) or questionable ballots would be decided by the Returning Officer, whose word is final. It would have all been over on November 9th or 10th.
The Florida Supreme Court did argue in their last opinions that to proceed beyond December 12th would violate the clear intent of the legislature and would violate the US Constitution. For that reason the Leon County judge in the case ordered compliance by I believe 6pm Sunday the 10th, a date that would have precluded the count in counties such as Duval which as of Sunday still did not have the ability to separate the under votes. That only contributed further to a possible 14th amendment problem.

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As to the Gore legal team's whining, it has little relevance. One will never be able to conclude that a result determined in a month's of study under alternative modes of counting, will ever resolve the question as to the result that could have been achieved by the 12th of December. To suggest that there is an equivalency seems a bit of a reach.

It was a tie and the better legal team won!

Ed Ratledge
As a former chair of AAPOR's conference operations committee (1995-1998) and conference program committee (1998-1999), I would like to note that Phyllis worked tirelessly on AAPOR's behalf in organizing the book exhibits for so many years. She was not always an easy person to work with but none on the committees ever questioned her remarkable devotion to AAPOR and the annual exhibit. I would hope that Council might somehow identify a proper tribute to her devotion and link it to the book exhibit.
AAPOR is sad to inform you that Phyllis Endreny, long-time AAPOR member and supporter has passed away. Many of you know Phyllis from her presence at the annual AAPOR Conferences where she was the Conference Book Exhibit coordinator extraordinaire.

Phyllis' sister, Corinne Kirchner, informed AAPOR today that apparently Phyllis died quietly in her sleep, while recovering in the hospital from an operation, following a fall in her apartment lobby.

Corrine's e-mail address: corinne@afb.net
Dear Dr. Keeter,

My name is Liz Kirchner. I'm an agronomist in Washington, D.C. and I hope to begin a doctoral program in the Environmental Sciences and Public Policy Department at George Mason this fall.

Right now, I am looking for information to help me write a survey examining homegarden food production practices in a small community near Managua, Nicaragua this summer. I am looking for insight into cultural differences to consider when composing a survey for a Latin American populations. In general, I'm looking for information about performing surveys in developing countries.

Do you happen to know of anything I might read? I'd appreciate any insight, information or advice you might give me. Thank you very much,

Liz Kirchner

Elizabeth Kirchner
Project Associate
American Institute of Biological Sciences
Scientific Peer Advisory and Review Services
107 Carpenter Drive, Suite 100
Sterling, VA 20164
(T) 703-834-0812 ext. 228
(F) 703-834-1160
e-mail: ekirchner@aibs.org

This is what I've been wondering, too. Most of the proposals for reform are for higher tech. What's wrong with having paper ballots & hand counts/recounts. We've now had postings here about Canada, Australia, Britain & India that it can be
done quickly. I can think of 2 arguments against: multiple races on the ballot & our political culture (whatever that counts for). Are these sufficient against? Higher tech sounds like a recipe for an even bigger mess when it someday fails.

Rick Weil, Sociology/LSU

----- Original Message ----- 
From: Worc <Worc@mori.com> 
To: <ratledge@UDel.Edu>; <aapornet@usc.edu> 
Sent: Tuesday, January 02, 2001 3:01 AM 
Subject: RE: Two Wrongs

> Why does it take so long to count a few ballots? In British elections
> the 'bank clerks' count 30 million votes overnight, including recounts where
either the winning vote is close, or other candidates are threatened with loss of their deposit
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It would have all been over on November 9th or 10th.
>
> Cheers
>
> Bob Worcester

>From cporter@hp.ufl.edu Tue Jan  2 09:50:57 2001
Received: from makalu.hp.ufl.edu (makalu.hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.150])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id JAA18942 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 09:50:54 -0800
(PST)
Received: from hp.ufl.edu (hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.149])
    by makalu.hp.ufl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id MAA06590
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 12:50:53 -0500
Received: from K2/SpoolDir by hp.ufl.edu (Mercury 1.48);
    2 Jan 01 12:50:49 -0400
Received: from SpoolDir by K2 (Mercury 1.48); 2 Jan 01 12:50:32 -0400
From: "Colleen K Porter" <cporter@hp.ufl.edu>
Dear folks,

Most of my survey experience has been in Florida and Texas, so please excuse my ignorance on this subject...

SIPP asks it this way:
"Was ... covered by a union or employee association contract during the 4-month period?"

One of the people on my team objects to that particular wording for the purposes of our survey, since the overall purpose is about health insurance. It's the term "covered by" that is problematic; we don't want confusion with health coverage--just whether they are working under a union contract.

And yes, this will be for a right-to-work state, so it's the union contract rather than union membership per se that is really crucial.

Does anyone have an alternative question wording without the "covered by" terminology? I'm hoping one of you folks from a union stronghold like Michigan or Pennsylvania or somewhere can help me on this one.

Thanks bunches,

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109
UF Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, rm. G1-009
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195
I am looking for references on retrospective questions for a client.

What are the problems inherent in asking people about behaviors and opinions they held at some point in time in the past? What are the techniques necessary to improve the reliability of retrospective questions? Under what circumstances is getting reliable information about not possible? (This particular issue relates to respondent awareness of the existence of a business in 1995.)

I looking for textbook discussions, published opinions, and research articles I can reference in a white paper.

I will be doing a classical literature search, including a search in POQ and some other journals. Hopefully, some of you can efficiently point me in the right direction.

Thanks for any feedback.

Bob Steen
Vice President
Fleishman-Hillard Research
200 North Broadway
St. Louis, MO 63102

Phone: 314 982 1752
Fax: 314 982 9105
steenb@fleishman.com
Bob,
I have taken the liberty to forward your request to my wife, Dr. Janet Brigham, who is currently working with a retrospective CAPI and Web survey questionnaire used to study past attempts by smokers to stop smoking. I suspect that you may find some useful references and assistance from her.

Richard Rands
President
CfMC
San Francisco, CA

---

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> Thanks for any feedback.
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> Vice President
> Fleishman-Hillard Research
> 200 North Broadway
> St. Louis, MO 63102
>
> Phone: 314 982 1752
> Fax: 314 982 9105
> steenb@fleishman.com

From richard@opinion.isi.uconn.edu Tue Jan  2 11:51:48 2001
Received: from opinion.isi.uconn.edu (opinion.isi.uconn.edu [137.99.84.21]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id LAA27342 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 11:51:47 -0800 (PST)
Received: from richard-nt (d103h67.public.uconn.edu [137.99.103.67]) by opinion.isi.uconn.edu (8.8.8+Sun/8.6.9) with SMTP id OAA05809 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 14:45:47 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <3.0.6.32.20010102145243.00f70ec0@opinion.isi.uconn.edu>
X-Sender: richard@opinion.isi.uconn.edu
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Light Version 3.0.6 (32)
Date: Tue, 02 Jan 2001 14:52:43 -0600
This is an extensively researched area, with a literature in public opinion research, statistics, psychology, history, and elsewhere.

There are several methods of asking retrospective questions, and they have been experimentally tested against each other. Some of the most recent work is by Mick Couper and others of the University of Maryland and University of Michigan, in the Panel Study of Income Dynamics Calendar Methods Study, which see at http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/psid/ehc/PSIDcalendarMethodsStudy.html

See also:


Elder, Glen H. The Life Course as Developmental Theory, which see at: http://www.unc.edu/~elder/srcd-97.html

The British Work-Life Histories, which see at: http://www.iser.essex.ac.uk/~brendan/ltr/ltr.html


In the 1970 Census, the Census Bureau did a direct comparison of "job five years ago" as reported in the current Census vs. job recorded for the same respondent in the Current Population Survey five years previously. Interesting results (especially for those who were students five years previously). See (I think) Retrospective Data on Work Status in the 1970 Census of Population: An Attempt at Evaluation, Ann R. Miller, Journal of the American Statistical Association, Vol. 71, No. 354.
What you will see is that there are real issues about collecting "simple" factual data retrospectively -- even whether or not one worked, for example. It can be done, chiefly if one provides cognitive structure to the respondent. There is a smaller literature, I suspect, on collecting opinion data retrospectively, but I have difficulty imagining that the same issues are not there and more. You could deal with the recall of whether a company existed five years previously by seeding the list with phantom companies and then adjusting results downward for these false memories.

However, in at least some cases you don't have to ask retrospective behavior or opinion questions or, perhaps, even retrospective knowledge questions -- there is archived data that will give you current, not retrospective, data from years ago. To be sure, sometimes the questions are not precisely what the client wants, but at a minimum such data can serve you as a benchmark, and at best, you can create a time series by asking about current opinions with the same questions used 5, 10, or even 50 years ago. The problem? It's not a panel, i.e., you are not interviewing the same people who were interviewed then.

At 12:06 PM 01/02/2001 -0600, you wrote:
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>
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>Bob Steen
>Vice President
Richard C. ROCKWELL
Executive Director, The Roper Center & Institute for Social Inquiry Professor of Sociology 341 Mansfield Road, U-164 Storrs, CT 06269-1164 USA V +1 860 486-4440 F +1 860 486-6308 richard@opinion.isi.uconn.edu
>From DOrourke@SRL.UIC.EDU Tue Jan  2 12:47:06 2001 Received: from eeyore.cc.uic.edu (eeyore.cc.uic.edu [128.248.171.51]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id MAA04909 for <AAPORNET@USC.EDU>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 12:47:05 -0800 (PST)
Received: from SRL.UIC.EDU (smtp.srl.uic.edu [131.193.93.96]) by eeyore.cc.uic.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id OAA03713 for <AAPORNET@USC.EDU>; Tue, 2Jan 2001 14:47:04 -0600 (CST)
Received: from main-Message_Server by SRL.UIC.EDU with Novell GroupWise; Tue, 02 Jan 2001 14:48:40 -0600
Message-Id: <sa51ea47.012@SRL.UIC.EDU>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 4.1
Date: Tue, 02 Jan 2001 14:47:12 -0600
From: "Diane O'Rourke" <DORourke@SRL.UIC.EDU>
To: AAPORNET@USC.EDU
Subject: Re: Retrospective questions -Reply

Also see:
Autobiographical Memory and the Validity of Retrospective Reports Norbert Schwarz & Seymour Sudman, eds. Springer-Verlag, 1994

Cognition and Survey Research
Monroe Sirken, Douglas Herrmann, Susan Shechter, Norbert Schwarz, Judith Tanur, and Roger Tourangeau, eds. Wiley, 1999

Cognition, Aging, and Self Reports
Norbert Schwarz, Denise Park, Barbel Knauper, & Seymour Sudman, eds. Psychology Press, 1999

>From abider@american.edu Tue Jan  2 13:01:57 2001 Received: from scaup.prod.itd.earthlink.net (scaup.prod.itd.earthlink.net [207.217.121.49]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id NAA13376 for <AAPORNET@USC.EDU>; Tue, 2 Jan 2001 13:01:57 -0800 (PST)
Look at Bureau of Justice Statistics, Redesign of the National Crime Survey
<http://www.ojp.usdoj.gov/bjs/cvict_rd.htm>
and specific redesign reports at the BJS site.

"Steen, Bob" wrote:
>
> I am looking for references on retrospective questions for a client.
> >
> > What are the problems inherent in asking people about behaviors and opinions
> > they held at some point in time in the past? What are the techniques necessary to improve the reliability of retrospective questions? Under what circumstances is getting reliable information about not possible? (This particular issue relates to respondent awareness of the existence of a business in 1995.)
>
> > I looking for textbook discussions, published opinions, and research articles I can reference in a white paper.
> >
> > I will be doing a classical literature search, including a search in POQ and some other journals. Hopefully, some of you can efficiently point me in the right direction.
> >
> > Thanks for any feedback.
> >
> > Bob Steen
> > Vice President
> > Fleishman-Hillard Research
> > 200 North Broadway
> > St. Louis, MO 63102
> >
> > Phone: 314 982 1752
> > Fax: 314 982 9105
> > steenb@fleishman.com
Dear Paul - and others on AAPORnet.

Quite a few of you have responded to me individually with kind words and vivid memories of Phyllis' dedicated work on AAPOR's annual book exhibit. I have tried to send everyone individual "thank you" notes, but in case I missed anyone, this is a heartfelt thanks to all of you. I have been sharing your messages with my brother Raymond, Phyllis' twin, because it is meaningful and helpful to our whole family to have these remembrances. I do know that the formal recognition AAPOR gave Phyllis at the 2000 conference was extremely important to her; she brought the leather case and plaque with her to show to our extended family at Thanksgiving.

I have suggested to those who have asked, that any memorial contribution would most appropriately be made to AAPOR's Endowment in Phyllis' name. I'm not sure how a tribute could be connected to the Book Exhibit, however with gratitude I look forward to hearing any ideas others may have. In turn, since I am also a longtime AAPOR member, I hope I can be some help in the transition for handling the next book exhibit (but no way would I put in the kind of time that Phyllis did!!)

Again, thanks for your concern and appreciation of Phyllis' efforts (Paul -- it is all the more genuine and meaningful to me because of your honest statement that recognized that her very dedication sometimes made her not the easiest to deal with!)

Best, Corinne

At 07:29 AM 1/2/01 -0500, you wrote:
>As a former chair of AAPOR's conference operations committee
>)(1995-1998) and conference program committee (1998-1999), I would like
>to note that Phyllis worked tirelessly on AAPOR's behalf in organizing
>the book exhibits for so many years. She was not always an easy person
>to work with but none on the committees ever questioned her remarkable
>devotion to AAPOR and the annual exhibit. I would hope that Council
>might somehow identify a proper tribute to her devotion and link it to
>the book exhibit.
>
PJL
>
>-----Original Message-----
>From: Marlene Bednarz [mailto:mbednarz@umich.edu]
>Sent: Wednesday, December 27, 2000 12:50 PM
AAPOR is sad to inform you that Phyllis Endreny, long-time AAPOR member and supporter has passed away. Many of you know Phyllis from her presence at the annual AAPOR Conferences where she was the Conference Book Exhibit coordinator extraordinaire.

Phyllis' sister, Corinne Kirchner, informed AAPOR today that apparently Phyllis died quietly in her sleep, while recovering in the hospital from an operation, following a fall in her apartment lobby.

Corrine's e-mail address: corinne@afb.net

Marlene at AAPOR

Not peeved--I just didn't think the comment was particularly useful. I was purposely casting a wide net, leaving it to later investigation to interpret what came back. H.
A feature in Sunday's Washington Post, reproduced at the end of this 
comment, brought to mind an exchange about two weeks ago with Howard 
Schuman. He seemed a bit peeved by how I responded to his recent 
request to AAPORNET:

> Can someone point me to recent (1999 or 2000) data on what Americans 
> know. . . .

I felt he should have phrased his request in a way that acknowledged 
how little can be known about what people know without differentiating 
between recall, recognition and reproduction and without specifying 
how the cognitive task is structured as well as the context in which 
it is attempted.

Since "cognitive factors in survey research" have become a thriving 
little industry, there is less excuse for dissemination of ignorant 
research that adds to the stock of what people know that ain't so 
about what people know and don't.

I think the following item by Richard Morin in the Washington Post 
today deserves to be the target of my last carping comment of the 
millennium.

Albert D. Biderman
abider@american.edu

> People Are Ignorant -- Get Over It
> >
> > Sunday, December 31, 2000; Page B05
> > © 2000 The Washington Post Company
> >
> > Jeremy Knowles, dean of the faculty of arts and sciences at Harvard 
> University, says he isn't too 
> troubled by recent reports that Americans don't know much about 
> American history. That's because he is never shocked by the "average 
> levels of knowledge in almost any field," Knowles wrote in a 
campus e-mail published by the American Council of Trustees and Alumni 
in its latest newsletter.
> >
> > Knowles's e-mail continued: "Did you know that 60 percent of adults 
> in France do not know who 
painted the Mona Lisa? Or that in this country, 27 percent of adults 
think that the sun goes around the Earth, and 36 percent believe that 
radioactivity is made safe by boiling it?"
> >
> > Your Unconventional Wiz is not comforted. But he is amused.
> > ++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++++
> >
> > Re: What Americans say they know about events
> > On Fri, 22 Dec 2000, Howard Schuman wrote:
Can someone point me to recent (1999 or 2000) data on what Americans know, or at least say they know, about different events and people of the past couple of years? For example, what percentage can identify Monica Lewinsky as against the percentage that can identify Putin? And similar indicators of attention to news of different kinds.

Thanks, Howard

>From edithl@xs4all.nl Wed Jan 3 04:12:16 2001
Received: from smtp9.xs4all.nl (smtp9.xs4all.nl [194.109.127.135]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id EAA02125 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 3 Jan 2001 04:12:15 -0800 (PST)
Received: from hera (s340-isdn462.dial.xs4all.nl [194.109.181.206]) by smtp9.xs4all.nl (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id NAA06948 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 3 Jan 2001 13:12:12 +0100 (CET)
Message-Id: <4.2.0.58.20010103122443.00a6aad0@pop.xs4all.nl>
X-Sender: edithl@pop.xs4all.nl
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.2.0.58
Date: Wed, 03 Jan 2001 12:30:14 +0100
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Edith de Leeuw <edithl@xs4all.nl>
Subject: Re: Retrospective questions
In-Reply-To: <951B30EE47A7D2118D4000AOC9EA357302D7E558@stlexgsrv01>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

A classic is the chapter on 'recall error, sources and bias reduction techniques' by Donna Eisenhower, Nancy Mathiowetz, and David Morganstein in the Wileybook Measurement errors in surveys, 1991.
I also suggest that you contact Nancy Mathiowetz (JPSM, University of Maryland) who is an expert in the field. On a conference on official statistics last fall in Stockholm she gave a very interesting paper based on her meta-analysis. I know that the appear will be published in the proceedings, but that will take some time, perhaps Nancy Mathiowetz can send you a preliminary version.

Edith
At 12:06 PM 1/2/01 -0600, you wrote:
I am looking for references on retrospective questions for a client.
>What are the problems inherent in asking people about behaviors and opinions they held at some point in time in the past? What are the techniques necessary to improve the reliability of retrospective questions? Under what circumstances is getting reliable information about not possible? (This particular issue relates to respondent awareness of the existence of a business in 1995.)
I looking for textbook discussions, published opinions, and research articles I can reference in a white paper.
I will be doing a classical literature search, including a search in POQ and some other journals. Hopefully, some of you can efficiently point me in the right direction.
A possible source for the Stalin quote - though the meaning seems to have gotten lost in the translation.

"We, the representatives of the workers, want the people not only to vote, but to govern as well. It is not those who vote and elect that rule, but those who govern."

http://www.marx2mao.org//Stalin/STCS18.html

--
Leo G. Simonetta
Art & Science Group, Inc.
simonetta@artsci.com
I am looking for any research that has been conducted regarding mixing modes in research design, i.e., the effects of combining telephone interviews (for example) with mail survey data, or supplementing Internet research data with more traditional methods. I have done a cursory search in POQ but haven’t seen much. Can anyone point me in the right direction?

Thanks.

Margaret R. Roller
Roller Marketing Research

Dick Halpern
There is the problem, as Dr. Linda Bartoshuk sees it: Say that two men, call them Richard and John, are both suffering from depression, and a researcher wants to find out if a particular medication will offer them relief.

Asked to rate the intensity of his depression on a scale of 1 to 10, Richard selects a 6. John, given the same rating scale, also picks a 6. But does he feel the same degree of depression as John?

Many researchers, said Dr. Bartoshuk, a psychologist at the Yale University School of Medicine and an expert on taste perception, assume the answer is yes, that, in effect, a 6 is a 6 is a 6.

But in fact, Dr. Bartoshuk said, nobody really knows, since depression, like many internal experiences, is subjective.

And therein lies an error that compromises many psychological studies, she believes, perhaps calling their findings into question.

Dr. Bartoshuk has described the error - which pops up in studies of everything from depression and taste perception to pain, prejudice, eating disorders and self-esteem - at several professional meetings. And she has written several papers detailing how the mistake is made.

But not all of her colleagues have reacted with gratitude.

"There seems to be a lot of venom," Dr. Bartoshuk said. "I've gotten nasty letters that basically said I was a moron."

As Dr. Bartoshuk describes it, the problem is simple but easily overlooked. It creeps in, she says, when researchers use a common measurement technique, the rating scale, to compare different people's subjective experiences. Undetected, it can produce distorted or even backward results.

The problem can be corrected if studies are properly designed to take account of the relative nature of the subject's responses, Dr. Bartoshuk said.

But in a review of eight volumes of the journal Physiology and Behavior, Dr. Bartoshuk said, she found the error in 17 of 68 human studies that used rating scales. In some cases, the mistake completely invalidated the studies' findings, she said.

Mapping the inner world is the goal of much psychological research. And for many researchers, rating scales offer a convenient method to explore what their research subjects are feeling and thinking.
In a typical study, subjects are asked to indicate, by locating themselves on a 9- or 10-point adjective scale, the intensity of a feeling or sensation.

A scale measuring hunger, for example, might ask the subjects to rate their appetite levels from 1 ("not at all hungry") to 10 ("very hungry"). An experiment on taste perception might invite ratings of the taste intensity of a particular substance from 1 ("very weak") to 9 ("very strong").

Rating scales are highly effective when researchers want to find out how the same subjects' feelings, attitudes or sensations change over time or in different situations. A psychologist, for example, might ask a group of subjects to rate how depressed they felt, give them six weeks of psychotherapy, and then have them repeat their ratings to see how helpful the therapy was.

The scales are also useful when researchers randomly assign subjects to different groups - giving each group a different drug, for example - and compare the results.

But many investigators also use rating scales for another purpose: they want to know how two groups of subjects, who differ in some way, experience things differently. A researcher might ask, for instance, whether men were more jealous than women, whether cocaine addicts craved cocaine more than smokers craved nicotine, or whether people with different psychiatric diagnoses suffered from similar or different levels of depression.

And this, said Dr. Bartoshuk, is where the mistake begins.

Such studies, she said, rest on the notion that the adjectives that mark the points on the rating scale mean the same thing to everyone.

But the reality is just the opposite: because internal experiences are subjective, the same adjective may mean something very different to different people.

A famine victim's "very hungry," for example, probably indicates a level of hunger far higher than the "very hungry" of a Fortune 500 C.E.O. questioned an hour before dinner. Similarly, "very depressed" likely suggests an emotion far more extreme to a person suffering from manic depression than to someone whose emotional life is generally on an even keel.

"Everybody knows that adjectives are entirely relative," Dr. Bartoshuk said, "yet scientists pick up these adjectives and use them on scales like they are absolute." Or, as she posed the question in a recent article, "How `awful' is `awful,' and is my `awful' the same as yours?"

In some studies, the fact that two subjects may interpret a scale differently makes little difference, because what the scale measures is not central to the goal of the study.

But in other cases, the assumption that people who choose the same adjective mean the same thing by it can wreak havoc.

Some of the most striking examples of this, Dr. Bartoshuk has found, are in taste research, where the confusion has obscured important differences in perception that have an effect on diet, and thus upon health.
Her own studies, for example, focus on genetic differences in taste perception. In particular, Dr. Bartoshuk has identified three different types of tasters: supertasters, medium tasters and nontasters.

Supertasters not only live in a much more intense taste world than medium tasters or nontasters, she has found. They also have a higher density of taste buds on their tongues, providing a way for researchers to easily recognize them.

But a funny thing happens if an experimenter tries to compare the taste experiences of supertasters and nontasters using a traditional rating scale.

A "strong" taste for a supertaster is much more intense than a "strong" taste for a nontaster. In fact, supertasters are operating on a much larger taste scale altogether, with a higher intensity ceiling and a greater distance between points.

But when the ratings of supertasters are recorded on the same scale as those of nontasters, these differences in perceived intensity are obscured. Large differences between the two groups look smaller. And small differences disappear altogether, or even appear to go in the opposite direction.

As a result, some researchers, using traditional rating techniques, have failed to find large differences between supertasters and nontasters, even for substances, like the chemical known as PROP, to which supertasters are known to be especially sensitive.

Dr. Bartoshuk and other investigators - by using methods that get around the subjectivity problem, like asking subjects to anchor their responses by referring to an entirely independent scale - have been able to demonstrate large differences.

While Dr. Bartoshuk suspects that the rating scale mistake may be most common in studies of sensory perception, two social psychologists, Dr. Monica Biernat of the University of Kansas and Dr. Melvin Manis of the University of Michigan, have uncovered the same problem in their own field, in slightly different form.

In a series of studies, for example, Dr. Biernat and Dr. Manis have shown that researchers cannot assume that subjects always mean the same thing when they apply descriptions like "tall," "aggressive" or "financially successful" to others.

Rather, the meaning of such words shift, depending on whether the person being described is male or female, white or African-American, or belongs to another group that is often stereotyped.

In one study, for example, the subjects were shown photographs of men and women at a farmer's market and asked to rate how financially successful they believed the
Men and women in the photographs were rated as equally successful by the subjects, Dr. Manis said. Given the same photos and asked how much money the person in the photograph earned, however, the subjects judged the women to have lower salaries than the men.

Similarly, a man and a woman may both be rated as "very tall." But when people are asked to guess the height of the man and the woman in feet and inches, they will judge the man to be taller.

"It's a little bit of a paradox," Dr. Manis said. "In much of our language, these adjectives are adjusted to fit the category you're talking about."

"You can say, `I know about a large chihuahua and, amazingly, you can fit it into a small car,' " he added. "It's because the meaning of the words 'large' and 'small' depend on whether you are talking about cars or chihuahuas."

Dr. S. S. Stevens, a renowned psychophysicist at Harvard, made the same point 40 years ago, writing that, "Mice may be called large or small, and so may elephants, and it is quite understandable when someone says it was a large mouse that ran up the trunk of the small elephant."

Like other early developers of scaling techniques, Dr. Stevens, who pioneered a method called "magnitude estimation," did not use his scale to compare the responses of different groups of subjects: if scientists do not know whether they are dealing with elephants or mice, Dr. Stevens realized, it becomes anyone's guess what small and large really mean.

The difficulties of such comparisons also became evident early on to cross-cultural researchers, who found they had to take into account the different shades of subjective meaning that colored their subjects' views of the world.

Dr. Douglas Wedell, an associate professor at the University of South Carolina and an expert in rating scale methodology, recalled a study in the 1940's that asked people from many different countries to locate themselves on a "ladder of happiness."

The researchers, he said, were startled to discover that the desperately poor residents of famine-torn regions of India rated their happiness at close to the same level as American suburbanites whose homes were stocked with modern conveniences and who always knew where their next meal was coming from.
"Across the world, just about everybody was happy," Dr. Wedell said, though what exactly happiness meant obviously differed greatly from culture to culture.

The scaling mistake that Dr. Bartoshuk has drawn attention to, he agreed, "is a major error that you'll find in major places."

Yet not everyone agrees. When a piece about Dr. Bartoshuk's concerns appeared in The Monitor, a publication of the American Psychological Association, for example, one letter writer sneered, "It seems likely that the response to the problem is small because the problem is, too."

Other colleagues, Dr. Bartoshuk said, dismiss the error as rare.

Still, when she explains the situation at meetings, she said, people often look at her illustrations and gasp.

"It's one of those 'aha!' experiences," Dr. Bartoshuk said. "This is all terribly obvious when you think about it. The question is, how did such mistakes get into the literature?"

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A December 4, 2000 article in "Marketing News," the monthly publication of the American Marketing Association, entitled "Critical Mass 2000" has the following to offer: "Online research: It's a fixture now that nearly half the population has Internet access (which solves sampling issues) ..." Am I losing my mind, or is this simply pure nonsense?
Happy New Year everyone!

Got the post-holiday (back-to-work) blues?? Feeling a little chilly? Well, then, let's shake that off by attending our January 17 DC/AAPOR Winter Social! See the beautiful view of the DC skyline. Meet colleagues & make new friends. You can even participate in our "hot" holiday gift exchange!

The announcement appears below; (please RSVP) see you there!

Rob Santos
Chapter President

PS: Chapter members, please remember to VOTE! Send in your ballot today!

******** BEGIN WINTER SOCIAL ANNOUNCEMENT ********

American Association for Public Opinion Research Washington/Baltimore Chapter

Winter Social for Members & Guests

COME JOIN THE FUN!
Social Event - Food and soft drinks provided

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 17, 2001
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: USA Today, 17th Floor
1000 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA

Parking: Available at 1000 Wilson (@ N. Arlington Ridge Rd.)
Gate will open if closed.
Take elevator from garage to "mall."
Walk to USA Today front desk.
Metro: Ride Blue or Orange Line to Rosslyn.
  Walk to Gannett Tower, 1100 Wilson (@ Lynn St.).
  Take escalator from lower mall up to mall level.
  Follow mallway to USA Today front desk.

RSVP: Mail check for $20.00 per person, payable to DC/AAPOR, so that it
  arrives by
  Thursday, January 11. Address it to:
  Carolyn F. Shettle
  5504 Uppingham Street
  Chevy Chase, MD 20815
  Or send e-mail to dc-aapor.admin@erols.com or call Audrey Kindlon at 301-897-4413 by
  Monday, January 15, and pay at the door.

SPECIAL: If you would like to participate in a post-holiday gift
  exchange, please bring a holiday gift that you are eager to trade!

Note: If you prefer not to receive e-mail notices in the future, please
  reply
to
dc-aapor.admin@erols.com

******* END of ANNOUNCEMENT *******

-----Original Message-----
From: Santos, Robert [mailto:RSantos@ui.urban.org]
Sent: Thursday, January 04, 2001 2:27 PM
To: 'aapornet@usc.edu'
Subject: Wash./Balt. Chapter Winter Social

I got the ballot and by-laws. On the by-laws, what does it mean that the
officers
are elected at the annual business meeting. Are they just to be announced
there
since we're now having competitive elections?
Happy New Year everyone!

Got the post-holiday (back-to-work) blues?? Feeling a little chilly? Well, then, let's shake that off by attending our January 17 DC/AAPOR Winter Social! See the beautiful view of the DC skyline. Meet colleagues & make new friends. You can even participate in our "hot" holiday gift exchange!

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THE POLICY.COM PCUPDATE

Friday, January 5, 2001

12/29/00: Census Numbers Hint At Political Shifts

http://www.speakout.com/Content/DailyBriefing/5489/

The Bureau of the Census released new population numbers for the United States on Thursday, giving the political world its first glimpse at population shifts that will adjust each state's representation in the House of Representatives.
Please know that this attachment to an e-mail that was just sent to me from ppaautrat@igc.org is a virus that was detected by Norton Anti-virus. There was no subject.

What it is I don't know but don't open it.

Virus name:
TIAZINHA.JPG.pif

Dear Dick:

What this is is an example of a virus masquerading as a JPG, which is a graphics file. If you hide extensions of known file types, then it looks like a JPG, and with a pif extensions it will also be hidden as a system file.

On Sat, 6 Jan 2001, dick halpern wrote:

> oessor(tm) by CRE
Hi folks,

The virus I reported this morning is real and is listed with Norton's virus listing. It is a worm which attaches itself to messages sent via MS Outlook Express. Complete information about what it is, what it does and what you must do is contained at the following URL: (One of the things it can do is to shut down your computer)

http://www.sarc.com/avcenter/venc/data/wscript.kakworm.htm

This service is brought to you by the Symantec AntiVirus Research Center (SARC).

Hopefully you won't be infected.

Dick Halpern
At 12:31 PM 1/6/01 -0500, dick halpern wrote:
> Please know that this attachment to an e mail that was just sent to me 
> from ppautrat@igc.org 
> is a virus that was detected by Norton Anti virus. There was no subject. 
> 
> What it is I don't know but don't open it.
>
> Virus name:
> TIAZINHA.JPG.pif

The actual virus/worm is known as W95.MTX (see also my posting of 
11/28/2000 to this list), but there is a long list of how the attachment 
can be named, tiazinha.jpg is just one of many. This virus/worm is 
currently on McAfee's top 10 list and has a Norton rating of "4" (the 
highest at the moment). However, this one has been around a while (August 
2000). So, unless you are completely sloppy with your anti-virus software 
(and obviously Dick was not) nothing to worry about. More info at: 
http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w95 mtx.html

Keep in mind that updated your anti-virus is not sufficient, if it is not 
set up correctly in the first place. And don't assume that your IC/IT 
people necessarily know what they are doing. I have a colleague at Hunter 
who religiously updated his anti-virus software, but the IC/IT had failed 
to setup the e-mail scan correctly and spent many hours getting his 
computer back in shape. If you have McAfee software you may want to take a 
look at this advice page: http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/anti-

virus.htm

Some parts apply to Hunter only, but it tells you what to check for at any 
rate. Be safe. M.

Manfred <http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html>Kuechler, 
Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)

At 12:31 PM 1/6/01 -0500, dick halpern wrote:<br>
Please know that this attachment to an e 
mail 
that was just sent to me from ppautrat@igc.org<br> is a virus that was 
detected by
Norton Anti virus. There was no subject.<br> What it is I don't know but don't open it.<br> Virus name: TIAZINHA.JPG.pif </blockquote><br> The actual virus/worm is known as W95.MTX (see also my posting of 11/28/2000 to this list), but there is a long list of how the attachment can be named, tiazinha.jpg is just one of many. This virus/worm is currently on McAfee's top 10 list and has a Norton rating of "4" (the highest at the moment). However, this one has been around a while (August 2000). So, unless you are completely sloppy with your anti-virus software (and obviously Dick was not) nothing to worry about. More info at:<br> <a href="http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w95.mtx.html">http://www.symantec.com/avcenter/venc/data/w95.mtx.html</a><br> Keep in mind that updated your anti-virus is not sufficient, if it is not set up correctly in the first place. And don't assume that your IC/IT people necessarily know what they are doing. I have a colleague at Hunter who religiously updated his anti-virus software, but the IC/IT had failed to setup the e-mail scan correctly and spent many hours getting his computer back in shape. If you have McAfee software you may want to take a look at this advice page:<br> <a href="http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/anti-virus.htm">http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/anti-virus.htm</a><br> Some parts apply to Hunter only, but it tells you what to check for at any rate. Be safe. M.<br> --=====================_69001968==_.ALT--

> From Susan.Pinkus@latimes.com Sat Jan  6 17:06:57 2001
Re: From Susan.Pinkus@latimes.com Sat Jan  6 17:06:57 2001
Received: from mail01-lax.pilot.net (mail-lax-1.pilot.net [205.139.40.18])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id RAA03767 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 6 Jan 2001 17:06:56 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mailgw.latimes.com (unknown-c-23-150.latimes.com
  [204.48.23.150]) by
mail101-lax.pilot.net with ESMTP id RAA24283 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 6
Jan 2001 17:06:55 -0800 (PST)
Received: from pegasus.latimes.com (localhost [127.0.0.1])
It seems that how often you go to church is more important than if you are of one religion or the other.

Susan Pinkus

-----Original Message-----
From: Frank Rusciano [SMTP:rusciano@rider.edu]
Sent: Monday, December 18, 2000 11:19 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Do Church Goers tend to vote Republican?

As a sidenote, Miller and Shanks noted in THE NEW AMERICAN VOTER that while the Evangelical Christians tended more toward the Republican side after the 1980 election, that movement was matched by a similar growth in the secular, non-religious voters turning toward the Democrats (perhaps in reaction to the Christian Right?). Perhaps, then, the religious/cultural split is partially defined by those who desire a more defined role for religion in politics against those who fear it. (These findings are on p. 227 of their book).

Frank Rusciano

David_Moore@gallup.com wrote:

> Just to be more precise about this topic -- Gallup polling has also shown
> that those who attend religious service weekly or more gave Bush a big lead;
> those who attend infrequently gave Gore a modest lead; and those who attend "never" gave Gore a big lead (big=double digit; modest = single digit). So,
the more frequently one attends Church service, the more likely the person was to support Bush over Gore. However, Gallup polling also shows that among black voters, there is no difference in support for Gore by frequency of attending religious service -- those who attend weekly or more are about as likely to vote for Gore over Bush as those who attend less frequently. (And blacks supported Gore by about a 9-1 ratio.) So, to say that Bush supporters are on the side of "God" REALLY means that white Bush supporters are more likely to attend religious service frequently than white Gore supporters. In fact, when one looks at it that way, we find that only about half of Bush's white supporters (53% or so) attend weekly, while a third attend infrequently, and 11% never attend. (The numbers among white voters who supported Gore indicate less frequent attendance: 35% weekly, 42% infrequently, and 20% never). Among black voters, we had too few in our sample who chose Bush, but those who supported Gore show the following attendance: 53% weekly, 42% infrequently, and 3% "never" -- clearly as "religious" as Bush's white supporters. (With all the examples, a small percentage gave no response, which is why the numbers do not add to 100%). So, while the figures are not likely to support a divine interpretation of the election outcome (unless one wants to speculate how "God" judges white vs. black voters), the figures do reflect what Alan Wolfe is loathe to admit (based on his extensive focus grouping among middle class Americans...and how can we doubt such results?!) that there is a cultural/religious devotion divide in America that is related to, and cross cuts with, our political and racial divisions. Regardless of one's spiritual and partisan orientation, those cross-cutting divisions would seem to be of considerable interest in understanding the recent election and the political environment in America.
today, and probably ought not to be confused with whatever steps toward "healing" the pundits feel are necessary.

David W. Moore
The Gallup Organization
47 Hulifish Street
Princeton, NJ 08542
(609) 924-9600
david_moore@gallup.com

-----Original Message-----
From: Albert D. Biderman [mailto:abider@american.edu]
Sent: Saturday, December 16, 2000 12:50 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Do Church Goers tend to vote Republican?

No, no. He's saying that those on the side of God vote Republican. That God is on the side of the Republicans goes without saying. He may not have made so many of them but he sure made them mostly richer than Democrats. (Republicans also are strict constructionists and know that all the seemingly pro-po' stuff in the Bible has to be constructed mighty strictly and that absolutely nobody goes to Hades in a Mercedes.) I expect you will be bombarded with the references showing Novak has plenty of poll data he can cite. All of which leads me to say, "Thank God I'm an atheist!"

Albert D. Biderman
abider@american.edu

dick halpern wrote:

During the course of a discussion this evening on PBA's News Hour Michael Novak (American Enterprise Institute) made a statement that church going people tended to vote for Bush while those who didn't attend Church or whose attendance was infrequent tended to vote for Gore. The comment was disputed by Alan Wolfe (Boston College) who claimed it was totally untrue. He went on to say that this was the kind of rhetoric that serves no useful purpose if Republicans truly believe that the country needs to heal and want to help in that process. To him, the remark does anyone have information about the relationship between church going and voting behavior? While this issue may strike some of us as "What?!?!!", we have to remember that Novak is well known and does represent a highly politically conservative organization. The implications of his
remark,
> > namely that God is on the side of the Republicans does reflect the
> > thinking
> > of many right wing conservatives. The implications for political
discourse
> > are rather obvious.
> > Dick Halpern

--
From RoniRosner@aol.com Sun Jan  7 19:59:29 2001
Received: from imo-d09.mx.aol.com (imo-d09.mx.aol.com [205.188.157.41])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id TAA10489 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 7 Jan 2001 19:59:28 -0800
(PST)
From: RoniRosner@aol.com
Received: from RoniRosner@aol.com
    by imo-d09.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v28.35.) id 5.71.9b05ba8 (8391)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sun, 7 Jan 2001 22:58:53 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <71.9b05ba8.278a94fd@aol.com>
Date: Sun, 7 Jan 2001 22:58:53 EST
Subject: 1/25 NYAAPOR WS: Dillman's "Mail and Internet Surveys"
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="UTF-8"
Content-Language: en
X-Mailer: AOL 5.0 for Windows sub 129
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 8bit
X-MIME-Autoconverted: from quoted-printable to 8bit by usc.edu id TAA10490

NYAAPOR, SURVEY SAMPLING, INC. & VERIZON
    present an Evening Workshop

Date .................... Thursday, 25 January 2001
Presentation ........ 5:30 pm SHARP! -- 8:30 pm

Place .................... Verizon
                      ............. 1095 Avenue of the Americas (42nd & 6th)
                      ............. 23rd Floor Auditorium
                      NOTE NEW LOCATION!

SPECIAL NOTE! ALL PARTICIPANTS MUST HAVE A VISITOR PASS!
THUS, RSVP MUST BE MADE BY 10 am ON TUES., 23 JAN.

DEADLINE FOR PRE-PAID FEE IS FRI., 19 JAN.

RSVP by E-MAILING RoniRosner@aol.com ONLY, NOT AAPORNET
******************************************************************************
MAIL AND INTERNET SURVEYS: THE TAILORED DESIGN METHOD
    Dr. Don Dillman, Washington State University

Since the publication of his classic book, "Mail and Telephone Surveys: The
Total Design Method" (1978), Don Dillman has been internationally recognized as a
major contributor to the development of modern mail and telephone survey methods. Don's
latest book, "Mail and Internet Surveys: The Tailored Design Method" (2000), presents the results of his NEW
research into issues posed by new technologies.

The workshop will explore:

* The important and profound issues raised by recent changes in the technologies available for conducting surveys in the 21st Century

* Why the changes brought on by new technologies can be seen as the major drivers of the increased, and perhaps dominant, use of self-administered surveys

* The results of the latest research into these new technologies -- including e-mail, WWW, video-streaming, interactive voice response to taped telephone messages, and optical scanning.

Dr. Dillman is the Thomas S. Foley Distinguished Prof. of Government & Public Policy in the Depts of Sociology and Rural Sociology, and Deputy Director for Research and Development in the Social and Economic Sciences Research Center (http://survey.sesrc.wsu.edu/dillman/) at Washington State University. Dillman is President-elect of AAPOR.

-------------------------
ATTENDANCE & ADMITTANCE IS BY ADVANCE RESERVATION ONLY. E-MAIL RoniRosner@aol.com, or call if you must (212/722-5333).

Return the form with your cheque by FRIDAY, 19 JAN. Pre-paid fees are on the return form below. Fees at the door are: $60 (NYAAPOR individual members), $75 (nonmembers), $40 (student members), $50 (student nonmembers, HLMs). Sorry, no refund but you can send someone in your place.

I will attend the NYAAPOR evening workshop on Thurs., 25 Jan.2001 with ___ additional guests.

NAME ____________________________________________________________
OFFICE PHONE ____________________________________________________
HOME PHONE ______________________________________________________
E-MAIL ____________________________________________________________
AFFILIATION _______________________________________________________
GUEST'S NAME _____________________________________________________

PREPAID FEES:
Members (NYAAPOR individual): $50 ___ Student members: $35 ___
Nonmembers: $65 ___ Student nonmembers, HLMs: $45 ___

Pre-paid form & cheque, payable to NYAAPOR, must arrive by 19 JAN. Send to: Roni Rosner, 1235 Park Avenue, #7C, New York, New York 10128-1759
Edison Media Research, a small, rapidly growing market research company located in Central New Jersey, is seeking junior and mid-level research professionals with a minimum of two years experience. Responsibilities include questionnaire development, data analysis, presentation preparation and report writing.

The ideal candidate should be detail-oriented and self-motivated, with the ability to handle multiple tasks in a fast-paced environment. An interest in media and music is a must. Computer skills essential.

We offer excellent salary with bonus potential. Benefits package includes 401(k) with employer match and employer-paid medical and dental insurance.

Edison Media Research conducts survey research and provides strategic information to radio stations, television stations, Internet companies, newspapers, cable networks, record labels and other media organizations.


Please email or mail resume (no calls please), which must include salary requirements to:

Rob Farbman
Edison Media Research
6 West Cliff Street
Somerville, NJ 08876
rfarbman@edisonresearch.com
Greetings, aaporneters --

I am doing research on public attitudes toward death and dying. I have already found more than I need on such practical/medical questions as assisted physician suicide and living wills, as well as on the death penalty, but I would like to find more on the more emotional, philosophical, cultural and spiritual dimensions of the subject -- e.g., what do people fear most about dying? How much control do we think we have over our fates? What sorts of funeral or mourning rituals do we embrace? How much time do we think is appropriate to take off from work when a family member dies? How do we feel about suicide (apart from euthanasia)? What do we think constitutes a "good death"? And so forth.

If anybody could point me to any US random sample surveys, cross-national comparisons, trend data, or special sample surveys of people who are actually engaged in dying, or to anyone who is doing survey research in this area, I would be most appreciative.

L'chaim!

-- Lisa
If you look at the LA Times Poll web site and Poll #431, we asked some questions about dying and fear of dying, etc. It was poll on aging and we oversampled respondents 60+.

If you have any questions, msg me directly.

Susan Pinkus
Director, LA Times Poll

-----Original Message-----
From: Lisa Parmelee [SMTP:lisap@opinion.isi.uconn.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 09, 2001 11:43 AM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: A grave subject

Greetings, aaporneters --

I am doing research on public attitudes toward death and dying. I have already found more than I need on such practical/medical questions as assisted physician suicide and living wills, as well as on the death penalty, but I would like to find more on the more emotional, philosophical, cultural and spiritual dimensions of the subject -- e.g., what do people fear most about dying? How much control do we think we have over our fates? What sorts of funeral or mourning rituals do we embrace?

How much time do we think is appropriate to take off from work when a family member dies? How do we feel about suicide (apart from euthanasia)?

What do we think constitutes a "good death"? And so forth.

If anybody could point me to any US random sample surveys, cross-national comparisons, trend data, or special sample surveys of people who are actually engaged in dying, or to anyone who is doing survey research in this area, I would be most appreciative.

L'chaim!

--

Lisa
Below is a question about recruiting survey respondents through the Internet from a friend who is not a member of AAPOR, but who could probably benefit from the expertise of the group. Responses may be sent to her directly (e-mail address: ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu). Thanks in advance. Patrick J. Moynihan
Postdoctoral Fellow
Institute for Health, Health Care Policy, and Aging Research Rutgers University 30 College Avenue New Brunswick, NJ 08901-1293 732-932-6941
pmoyniha@rci.rutgers.edu

I would be interested in finding other work that has been done with surveys conducted via the internet, especially health related surveys. We are mainly interested in two things - the effectiveness of the internet is in recruiting participants to a health study and the demographics of the participants who have been or are likely to be recruited, especially with regard to the
demographics of those who have the particular disease.

Patricia Pugliani, Ph.D.
University at Stony Brook,
Department of Preventive Medicine
HSC 3L-104, Z=3D8036
Stony Brook, NY 11794-8036
Phone:631-444-7982
FAX: 631-444-7525
ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu

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Responses may be sent to her directly (e-mail address:
<A href=3Dmailto:ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu><FONT size=3D2>ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu</FONT></A>).&nbsp;

Thanks in advance.&nbsp;

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<A href=3Dmailto:ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu><FONT size=3D2>ppuglian@uhmc.sunysb.edu</FONT></A>).&nbsp;

Thanks in advance.&nbsp;

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In 1992, the Iowa Poll, long known for its quirky explorations of the soft underbelly of the Iowa psyche, asked what you would most like to take with you after you die, if you could take one thing. The most common response to the open-ended question (19%) was a loved one. Now, if you were the loved one in question, you'd have to wonder if that was or was not a compliment. Other answers: Memories (9%), Pictures (6%), Religious items (5%), Honorable traits (4%), Pets (3%), Jewelry (3%), Love and/or happiness (3%), Recreational items (3%, but don't ask what these might be) and bringing up the rear, Money (1%). Which just goes to show that Iowans don't care if you can or can't take it with you . . . we don't WANT to take it with us. Oh, by the way, for those of you trying to make the responses add to 100%, the remainder said nothing or wanted to think about the question a lot longer.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company, Inc.
Des Moines, Iowa
This isn't at all what you asked for, but . . .

In 1992, the Iowa Poll, long known for its quirky explorations of the soft underbelly of the Iowa psyche, asked what you would most like to take with you after you die, if you could take one thing. The most common response to the open-ended question (19%) was a loved one. Now, if you were the loved one in question, you'd have to wonder if that was or was not a compliment.

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Oh, by the way, for those of you trying to make the responses add to 100%, the remainder said nothing or wanted to think about the question a lot longer.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D. <BR>Selzer &amp; Company, Inc. <BR>Des Moines, Iowa

A client has asked us to include questions about telecommuting or
tele-working in a statewide telephone survey of adults. We are not satisfied with the draft questions and are in search of a good set of questions to use. The goal appears to be to learn (1) how many workers are now tele-commuting, (2) how many might be interested if they had the opportunity and (3) attitudes about policies that would encourage telecommuting. We are especially interested in any questions of this kind that have been used on national samples, as this would allow us to make comparisons to the nation as whole. Obviously, a definition of telecommuting, usable in a telephone survey, would also be handy . . .

Kindly send your suggestions or leads to me directly.

Tom

Thomas M. Guterbock
NEW POSTAL ADDRESS: University of Virginia
Center for Survey Research
P. O. Box 400767
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4767
Voice: (804) 243-5223
CSR Main Number: (804) 243-5222
FAX: (804) 243-5233
E-mail: TomG@virginia.edu

Belated thanks to the many on the AAPOR list who responded to a previous posting in which we sought good examples of surveys about public schools. We got some truly outstanding examples and a wide diversity of prototypes. Our client has used these to tell us what they really want to know about their schools. I'll be happy to share the examples sent to us, if anyone else needs these.

What a tremendous resource is this group!

Tom

Thomas M. Guterbock
Voice: (804) 243-5223
NEW POSTAL ADDRESS: University of Virginia
Center for Survey Research
P. O. Box 400767
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4767
Voice: (804) 243-5223
CSR Main Number: (804) 243-5222
FAX: (804) 243-5233
E-mail: TomG@virginia.edu
>From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jan 10 10:18:52 2001
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.167])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA20602 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:18:50 -0800
(PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
    by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA00333 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:18:49 -0800
(PST)
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:18:49 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: From Jodi Dean: Request for information (fwd)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.21.0101101018210.23180-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

---------- Forwarded message ----------
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:08:24 -0500
From: Jodi Dean <jdean@HWS.EDU>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: Request for information

(I meant to post this to the whole list but I think something went wrong--can you forward it?)

Does anyone have good numbers about the number of webcams used today? What about the number of sites with cams? The number of women's sites with cams? I seem to recall that this information appeared on this list a while back, but I can't find it.

Thanks,
Jodi

>From MSaxon@jup.com Wed Jan 10 10:25:45 2001
Received: from mail.jupmail.com (mail.jupmail.com [209.246.40.24])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA27819 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:25:44 -0800
(PST)
From: MSaxon@jup.com
Received: from nyc-ex01.jup.com (nyc-ex01xt.jup.com [209.246.40.30])
    by mail.jupmail.com (Build 91 (devel) 8.9.3/NT-8.9.3) with ESMTP id
    NAA31304;
    Wed, 10 Jan 2001 13:41:00 -0500
Received: by nyc-ex01.jup.com with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
    id <YP29A9X1>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 13:25:04 -0500
Message-ID: <97F990776A73D31180960090279C181602A42FD0@nyc-ex01.jup.com>
To: jdean@hws.edu
Cc: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: From Jodi Dean: Request for information (fwd)
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 13:24:57 -0500
Jodi -

As long as you're not going to use the data for commercial purposes, I can probably help you. Why don't you contact me directly.

Thanks,

Mike

Michael Saxon | Research Director, Primary Research |
Jupiter Research, a Jupiter Media Metrix Company | 21 Astor Place | New York, NY 10003 |
Voice: 917-534-6315 | Fax: 917-534-6812 | http://www.jup.com
<http://www.jup.com/>

----- Original Message-----
From: James Beniger [mailto:beniger@rcf.fs.usc.edu]
Sent: Wednesday, January 10, 2001 1:19 PM
To: AAPORNET
Subject: From Jodi Dean: Request for information (fwd)

------- Forwarded message -------
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 10:08:24 -0500
From: Jodi Dean <jdean@HWS.EDU>
To: beniger@rcf.usc.edu
Subject: Request for information

(I meant to post this to the whole list but I think something went wrong--can you forward it?)

Does anyone have good numbers about the number of webcams used today? What about the number of sites with cams? The number of women's sites with cams? I seem to recall that this information appeared on this list a while back, but I can't find it.

Thanks,
Jodi
Hi Friends,

I was hoping to tap into my generous AAPOR colleagues on a couple of topics:

OMNIBUS
I am looking for some practical advice on setting up an maintaining an industry specific Omnibus survey. My intention is to conduct a bi-annual telephone survey with a national, projectable sample of consumers regarding one specific industry. I will be asking members of "Associations" in the industry to subscribe and provide an opportunity to purchase proprietary questions. The premise is these Associations do not have as many resources to purchase large study, longitudinal research as the private companies in this industry. We hear over and over that this would be very valuable. I am requesting comments regarding experiences, current trends, sample or methodology; pricing and marketing advice and other tips you may have.

RESPONDENT PANELS
At the same time, I am seeking practical advice on setting up respondent panels. In this case, respondents are professionals within a specific industry. Here helpful experience and observations of current trends in regard to recruitment, interviewing standards, incentives and comparative survey methodologies would be of most interest.
I feel comfortable with the theoretical and methodological advantages and drawbacks of these techniques. Please send feedback directly to Ellen Boisvert, APR at research@compendiumgroup.com.

Many thanks and best regards.

--------------81F1258C1AFD393FB7086C32
Content-Type: text/x-vcard; charset=us-ascii; name="research.vcf"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
Content-Description: Card for Ellen Boisvert
Content-Disposition: attachment;
   filename="research.vcf"
begin:vcard
n:Boisvert;Ellen
tel;fax:978-777-8733
tel;work:978-777-3555 x203
x-mozilla-html:FALSE
url:www.compendiumgroup.com
org:Compendium Group, Inc.
adr:;;Ten Page Street;Danvers;MA;01923;USA
version:2.1
title:Director of Research
x-mozilla-cpt:;1
fn:Ellen Boisvert
end:vcard
--------------81F1258C1AFD393FB7086C32--

>From wendylanders@hotmail.com Wed Jan 10 13:25:08 2001
Received: from hotmail.com (law2-f239.hotmail.com [216.32.181.239])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id NAA25111 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 13:25:06 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mail pickup service by hotmail.com with Microsoft SMTPSVC;
   Wed, 10 Jan 2001 13:24:32 -0800
Received: from 209.50.244.134 by lw2fd.hotmail.msn.com with HTTP; Wed, 10 Jan
2001 21:24:32 GMT
X-Originating-IP: [209.50.244.134]
From: "Wendy Landers" <wendylanders@hotmail.com>
To: aapornet@usc.edu, dc-aapor.admin@erols.com
Subject: Job Opening
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 16:24:32 -0500
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; format=flowed
Message-ID: <LAW2-F239Z1AOv3MMUZ0000ffa6@hotmail.com>
X-OriginalArrivalTime: 10 Jan 2001 21:24:32.0871 (UTC)
FILETIME=[B9584F70:01C07B4B]

Vacancy Announcement
Senior Study Director
Opportunity to join Temple University's Institute for Survey Research in
Philadelphia.
Five to 10 years of experience, Master's degree or Ph.D. with management experience preferred. Knowledgeable about the intricacies of the survey process. Experience with all parts of the survey process preferred, from original client contact, through data collection, to delivering a finished analytical product. The successful applicant will be responsible for research, funding, contract proposal writing, project management, and other managerial duties as assigned. Experience in the following areas is desired: questionnaire design, interviewing methods, data analysis, report writing, literature review, survey sampling, qualitative research techniques, and meeting coordination. Strong writing skills and the ability to locate, synopsize, and synthesize social science studies are desired. Also preferred is the ability to prepare tables, graphs, and statistical analysis in several different platforms. Good organizational skills are a must.
Send a cover letter stating salary requirements and a resume or curriculum vitae to: Wendy Landers, Institute for Survey Research, Temple University, 4646 40th Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20016. Fax: 202-537-6873. E-Mail: wendylanders@ioip.com.

Get your FREE download of MSN Explorer at http://explorer.msn.com

>From lamatsch@nevada.edu Wed Jan 10 14:36:43 2001
Received: from am-dew.nevada.edu (am-dew.nevada.edu [131.216.1.249])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id OAA16535 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 14:36:30 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from cbc138 (b138c.lv-cbc.nevada.edu [131.216.79.86])
    by am-dew.nevada.edu (8.8.8/8.8.8) with SMTP id OAA06526
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 14:36:17 -0800 (PST)
From: "Dr. Thomas Lamatsch" <lamatsch@nevada.edu>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Passive Consent
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 14:31:25 -0800
Message-ID: <NEBBLOJLGLBGLGECJGANKEIICCAA.lamatsch@nevada.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2911.0)
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400
In-Reply-To: <SIMEON.10101091607.F@gj9k20b.config.mail.virginia.edu>

Does anybody have experience in doing a survey of high school students using passive consent only? We want to inform parents that their children will be asked to take a survey (on choosing a college/career) to give them a chance to tell their children to refuse. The IRB of the local school board approved the passive consent but my own IRB tell me that passive consent is not acceptable. Does anybody have experience with underage respondents and passive consent?
Please reply to me personally (lamatsch@nevada.edu) I'll post a summary to the list.

tom

******************************************************************************
Thomas Lamatsch, Ph.D.
Director
The Howard W. Cannon Center for Survey Research
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Political Science
University of Nevada - Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway - Box 455008
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5008
Phone (702)895-0167
Fax (702)895-0165
Cellular (702)561-8768
http://www.unlv.edu/Research_Centers/ccsr/

>From jms@cs.Berkeley.EDU Wed Jan 10 15:44:35 2001
Received: from csm.Berkeley.EDU (csm.Berkeley.EDU \[128.32.165.42\])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
      id PAA27339 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 15:44:35 -0800
      (PST)
Received: from csm7.berkeley.edu (bar356-1.SSCL.Berkeley.EDU \[128.32.119.45\])
   by csm.Berkeley.EDU (8.10.0/8.10.0) with ESMTP id f0ANjtj16479
      for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 15:45:56 -0800 (PST)
Message-Id: <4.3.2.7.2.20010110153910.00c59480@cs.Berkeley.EDU>
X-Sender: jms@cs.Berkeley.EDU
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 4.3.2
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 15:40:07 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: merrill shanks <jms@cs.Berkeley.EDU>
Subject: Job Vacancy
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Vacancy Announcement
Technical Assistant in Software Support Services Computer-assisted Survey Methods
Program University of California, Berkeley

The Computer-assisted Survey Methods (CSM) Program is a major component in the Social Science Computing laboratory, a computing services organization on the Berkeley campus that reports to the Associate Vice Chancellor for Information Systems and Technology. CSM is committed to the development and maintenance of software for the collection, processing, and documentation of survey-type data. Based on that software, CSM provides a variety of software- and computer-related services to an international user community as well as
the Berkeley campus.

The Technical Assistant will be part of the Software Support group which is responsible for testing and documenting CSM software and providing end-user training, support and consultation on use of those programs.

Extensive experience in using MS-Windows or UNIX is required. General knowledge of social science research methods or experience in survey work is highly desirable. A working knowledge of CSM-supported software is desired but not required. Must be able to work effectively with users of varying skill levels.

For further information and instructions on how to apply, check the Job Openings page at http://cases.berkeley.edu:7504 or contact Cathi Walton at (510) 643-9558 or cjw@csb.berkeley.edu.

J. Merrill Shanks
(510) 642-1104
(510) 642-9665 Fax

>From rrands@cfmc.com Wed Jan 10 17:05:33 2001
Received: from mail.cfmc.com (main.cfmc.com [206.15.13.129])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
      id RAA15029 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 17:05:32 -0800
(PST)
Received: from rrands-W98 (rands-w95.cfmc.com [206.15.13.172])
   by mail.cfmc.com (8.8.7/8.8.7) with SMTP id RAA13334
      for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 17:05:30 -0800
Message-Id: <4.1.20010110161905.019a4cb0@pop.cfmc.com>
X-Sender: rrands@pop.cfmc.com
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Pro Version 4.1
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 17:05:09 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Richard Rands <rrands@cfmc.com>
Subject: Re: Passive Consent
In-Reply-To: <NEBBLOJLGLBGLGECJGANKEIICC.A.1amatsch@nevada.edu>
References: <SIMEON.10101091607.F@gj9k20b.config.mail.virginia.edu>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"

Hi Tom,

You need to go to the NIH web site to check out their rather large section on "approved" approaches to studying children.

The URL is: grants.nih.gov/grants/funding/children/pol_children_qa.htm

Richard Rands
Does anybody have experience in doing a survey of high school students using passive consent only? We want to inform parents that their children will be asked to take a survey (on choosing a college/career) to give them a chance to tell their children to refuse. The IRB of the local school board approved the passive consent but my own IRB tell me that passive consent is not acceptable. Does anybody have experience with underage respondents and passive consent?

Please reply to me personally (lamatsch@nevada.edu) I’ll post a summary to the list.

tom

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Thomas Lamatsch, Ph.D.
Director
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Phone (702)895-0167
Fax (702)895-0165
Cellular (702)561-8768
http://www.unlv.edu/Research_Centers/ccsr/

From mark@bisconti.com Wed Jan 10 17:13:11 2001
Received: from pivot.healthnotes.com ([209.3.111.158])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id RAA25677 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 17:13:10 -0800
(PST)
Received: from mark (adsl-138-88-47-50.bellatlantic.net [138.88.47.50]) by
    pivot.healthnotes.com with SMTP (Microsoft Exchange Internet Mail Service
    Version 5.5.2650.21)
    id C1D3GZSR; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 20:13:31 -0500
From: "Mark David Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: NORC to describe/code FL ballots
Date: Wed, 10 Jan 2001 20:12:59 -0500
Message-ID: <JAEPJNNBGDEENLLCIIBKENDC0AA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
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Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook IMO, Build 9.0.2416 (9.0.2910.0)
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.50.4133.2400

Disqualified Ballots In Fla. to Be Surveyed
By Susan Schmidt
Washington Post Staff Writer
A group of news organizations announced yesterday that it has hired an independent research firm to survey and categorize Florida ballots on which there was no recordable vote in the 2000 presidential race. The organizations have hired the nonprofit National Opinion Research Center to examine about 180,000 ballots on which there was no clear vote, either because no presidential preference was indicated or because there were too many marks. The inventory will describe how the ballots were marked but will not try to assess whether a ballot constituted an attempted vote for a particular candidate, officials of the news organizations said. The group is made up of The Washington Post, the New York Times, the Wall Street Journal, Tribune Publishing, CNN, the Associated Press, the Palm Beach Post and the St. Petersburg Times. They will share the cost of the survey. The National Opinion Research Center is a field survey firm affiliated with the University of Chicago. It will ask three auditors to independently place ballots into categories -- a project that is expected to take eight to 10 weeks. The work will be overseen by a steering committee of news organization representatives. Washington Post Executive Editor Leonard Downie Jr. said the goal of the project will be to learn more about the counting process and gain insight into why there were so many ballots with ambiguous markings. "We are not going to determine whether a ballot with a pregnant chad is a vote for somebody," said Downie. "We will describe them and how they were apportioned. This is not an attempt to discover whether one candidate or another should have won the election. That is not our job; it's the job of the election authorities." Mike Silverman, managing editor of the Associated Press, said the news organizations are not attempting an election recount. "A thorough inspection of all the disputed ballots and a public categorization and description of them will become part of an important historical record," he said, "but we are not going into this with any notion of being able to say who really won or anything of that sort." Each news organization will decide on the stories it wants to extract from the data. The media group has asked
each of Florida's 67 counties to segregate ballots that did not have a recorded vote for president. Some counties have agreed to, while others, including populous Orange and Duval counties, have said that doing so would be difficult, time-consuming and costly. The media group has agreed to pay any cost incurred in separating the overvoted and undervoted ballots. Of Florida's 6 million ballots cast, 120,000 were overvoted for president and 60,000 were undervoted. The survey will examine the overvoted ballots -- which for the most part were not reviewed by the canvassing boards during the Florida election recount -- to gain information on what sort of stray marks, indentations or double votes led to those ballots being disqualified. In some instances, voters indicated a presidential preference, then wrote in a name as well, causing those ballots to be discarded. Ballots will be placed into categories -- those with dimpled chads, for example -- and will be further categorized by candidate name, according to Washington Post election expert Dan Keating, who has helped set up the survey. A calculation could then be made, he said, to see what the outcome would have been had each of the various standards been in use statewide. A separate Miami Herald survey is underway. Publishers and executives from the Herald and the other news organizations discussed joining forces, believing that competing ballot surveys might further confuse the public record. But the Herald is already well underway with its effort, having hired an accounting firm last month, and decided not to relinquish its management role to a joint committee. (c) 2001 The Washington Post

>From surveys@wco.com Wed Jan 10 17:38:13 2001
Received: from e4500a.callatg.com (qmailr@e4500a.atgi.net [216.174.194.60]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP id RAA23897 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 10 Jan 2001 17:38:07 -0800 (PST)
Received: (qmail 19231 invoked from network); 11 Jan 2001 01:38:06 -0000
Received: from unknown (HELO hz) (64.42.94.94) by e4500a.callatg.com with SMTP; 11 Jan 2001 01:38:06 -0000
Message-ID: <019501c07b6f$a9d579a0$05c8a8c0@dummy.net>
Reply-To: "Hank Zucker" <surveys@wco.com>
From: "Hank Zucker" <surveys@wco.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
References: <JAEPJNNBGDEENLCLIIIBKENDCOAA.mark@bisconti.com>
Hi,

I saw a letter in the SF Chronicle that maintains there as been no "credible study" of whom, if anyone, Nader voters would have voted for, if Nader had not been on the ballot. I seem to remember something here from exit polls that said that about 1/3 of Nader voters would not have voted for President at all and of the other two-thirds, 3/4 would have voted for Gore.

I tried searching my copies of the messages, but could not find any data. Perhaps I read it in a linked page or some other source. Does anyone know about data on Nader voters' second choices?

Thanks very much.

Hank Zucker, Ph.D.
Creative Research Systems
Makers of The Survey System: Survey software that makes you look good
www.surveysystem.com 707-765-1001
Friends:

Education Week commissioned and has just released a Belden Russonello & Stewart survey of 1019 public school teachers, which is featured in the Ed Week annual publication, Quality Counts 2001. The survey looks at teachers' views on what is happening in their classrooms relative to raising state academic standards and testing, and their own proficiency and training.

A full copy of our survey report is available on the Ed week website where you can see the whole book/report that uses the poll as well as other data on the status of standards and testing in public schools nationwide (www.edweek.org -- click on Quality Counts 2001, click on Table of Contents, then click on Side bar: poll -- Teachers support standards with hesitation).

We would also be happy to email you or print and send a copy. Just send me a note. Let me know if we can answer any questions.

Nancy Belden
Belden Russonello & Stewart
1320 19th Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC 20039
nancybelden@brspoll.com
202.822.6090
I don't believe this has been reported very widely. But as the vote count continued across the country over the past few weeks, Gore's popular vote margin has grown to 540,000 votes. See below.


For those of you with an interest in Minnesota or Gov. Jesse Ventura, you might be interested in the latest Minnesota Poll findings on Ventura's job approval ratings and how Minnesotans view his moonlighting ventures.

If you're not interested, please accept my apology for this intrusion, and just hit the delete button.

Best wishes...

Rob
Hi Rob--

Yes, obviously interested, but no attachment below?

Happy new year from Jane and me --say hi to Bill Mac. ...

Garrett

At 09:31 AM 1/11/01 -0600, you wrote:
>For those of you with an interest in Minnesota or Gov. Jesse Ventura,
>you might be interested in the latest Minnesota Poll findings on
>Ventura's job approval ratings and how Minnesotans view his
>moonlighting ventures.
>
> If you're not interested, please accept my apology for this intrusion,
>and just hit the delete button.
>
>Best wishes...
>
>Rob

>Robert P. Daves  v: 612.673-7278
>Director of Strategic & News Research  f: 612.673-4359
>Star Tribune  e:
daves@startribune.com
>425 Portland Av. S.
>Minneapolis MN USA 55488
Dear Nancy,

AI would be interested in seeing the public school teachers survey. Please e-mail it to Richard@fmma.com.

Thanks,

Richard Maullin

-----Original Message-----
From: Nancy Belden [mailto:nancybelden@brspoll.com]
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2001 6:42 AM
To: apornet
Subject: Teacher poll available

Friends:

Education Week commissioned and has just released a Belden Russonello & Stewart survey of 1019 public school teachers, which is featured in the Ed Week annual publication, Quality Counts 2001. The survey looks at teachers' views on what is happening in their classrooms relative to state academic standards and testing, and their own proficiency and training.
A full copy of our survey report is available on the Ed week website where you can see the whole book/report that uses the poll as well as other data on the status of standards and testing in public schools nationwide (www.edweek.org -- click on Quality Counts 2001, click on Table of Contents, then click on Side bar: poll -- Teachers support standards with hesitation).

We would also be happy to email you or print and send a copy. Just send me a note. Let me know if we can answer any questions.

Nancy Belden
Belden Russonello & Stewart
1320 19th Street NW, Suite 700
Washington, DC  20039
nancybelden@brspoll.com

202.822.6090

>From daves@startribune.com Thu Jan 11 08:20:58 2001
Received: from firewall2.startribune.com (firewall2.startribune.com [132.148.80.211])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA25695 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 08:20:57 -0800
    (PST)
Received: by firewall2.startribune.com; id KAA21127; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 10:22:53
    -0600
    (CST)
Received: from unknown(132.148.25.25) by firewall2.startribune.com via smap
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    id xma020975; Thu, 11 Jan 01 10:22:07 -0600
Received: from SMTP (stnave.startribune.com [132.148.90.39])
    by mailstartribune.com (8.9.0/8.9.0) with SMTP id KAA03826
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 10:13:35 -0600 (CST)
Received: from mail.startribune.com ([132.148.90.226]) by 132.148.90.39
    (Norton AntiVirus for Internet Email Gateways 1.0)
    Thu, 11 Jan 2001 16:11:54 0000 (GMT)
Received: from STAR-Message_Server by mail.startribune.com
    with Novell GroupWise; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 10:17:06 -0600
Message-Id: <sa5d8822.054@mail.startribune.com>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.2
Date: Thu, 11 Jan 2001 10:16:15 -0600
From: "Rob Daves" <daves@startribune.com>
To: aeikensdp@aol.com, tsilver@capaccess.org, sschier@carleton.edu,
    75227.173@compuserve.com, reide@email.usps.gov,
Subject: Whoops.

Sorry about the missing link. It's

http://www.startribune.com
Apologies. Many of them.

Rob

As promised a summary of answers.

First of all THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I have received more than 20 responses and it looks like a 3-1 split. The majority (mostly private companies) agreed that passive consent is enough - especially considering:
* that we will not ask any sensitive questions
* the survey can been considered part of the school district's efforts to encourage students to go to college
* the school district is one of the clients
* the school district's IRB agrees that passive consent is enough (considering the tens of thousands of interviews)
* the study is not paid for by federal grants

A little over 1/4 of the responses (mostly from other universities) agreed with my IRB that active consent needs to be obtained because:

* the school district's IRB is not responsible
* the law requires active consent not matter who the client is

SOME of these responses did however include a qualifier that some surveys might be exempt:
* either because the content could be considered part of the instruction OR
* or for certain surveys such as child abuse where the child could
  potentially
  be put
  in more danger (which does not apply to my survey considering that we mostly
talk
about whether they are planning to go to college or not)

Thank you again!

tom

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Thomas Lamatsch, Ph.D.
Director
The Howard W. Cannon Center for Survey Research
Assistant Professor
Dept. of Political Science
University of Nevada - Las Vegas
4505 Maryland Parkway - Box 455008
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5008
Phone       (702)895-0167
Fax         (702)895-0165
Cellular    (702)561-8768
http://www.unlv.edu/Research_Centers/ccsr/

>From jsheppard@cmor.org Thu Jan 11 09:34:15 2001
Received: from mail.saturn5.net (mail.intraclub.net [207.122.105.6])
 by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
 id JAA19574 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 09:34:14 -0800
(PST)
Received: from preferrc ([24.140.9.217]) by mail.saturn5.net
 (Post.Office MTA v3.5.3 release 223 ID# 0-68437U1600L100S0V35)
 with SMTP id id for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 11 Jan 2001 12:34:49 -0500
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Reply-To: "Jane Sheppard" <jsheppard@cmor.org>
From: "Jane Sheppard" <jsheppard@cmor.org>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Re: Passive Consent Summary
Date: Thu, 11 Jan 2001 12:31:17 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
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X-Priority: 3
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Thought this would be of interest to you. It's regarding getting consent for
school
children to do a survey, I believe.

Jane
-----Original Message-----
As promised a summary of answers.

First of all THANK YOU VERY MUCH! I have received more than 20 responses and it looks like a 3-1 split. The majority (mostly private companies) agreed that passive consent is enough - especially considering:

* that we will not ask any sensitive questions
* the survey can been considered part of the school district's efforts to encourage students to go to college
* the school district is one of the clients
* the school district's IRB agrees that passive consent is enough
*(considering the tens of thousands of interviews)*
* the study is not paid for by federal grants

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* either because the content could be considered part of the instruction OR
* or for certain surveys such as child abuse where the child could potentially be put in more danger (which does not apply to my survey considering that we mostly talk about whether they are planning to go to college or not)

Thank you again!

tom

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4505 Maryland Parkway - Box 455008
Las Vegas, Nevada 89154-5008
Phone (702)895-0167
Fax (702)895-0165
Cellular (702)561-8768 http://www.unlv.edu/Research_Centers/ccsr/
The Office of Research at the United States Department of State has an opening for a European public opinion analyst in Washington, DC. The job responsibilities include planning surveys in Europe, analyzing results and preparing reports on the findings for U.S. government policy-makers.

The position is at the GS-101-12/13 level. Starting salary will be between $44,352 and $69,069 depending on qualifications and experience. Training and experience in survey research is a requisite. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis of five criteria: (1) knowledge of survey research methodology and quantitative data analysis; (2) skill in organizing and conducting research on public opinion, and on political, economic, and cultural developments; (3) knowledge of the politics, societies and cultures of western and eastern Europe and US foreign policy toward the region; (4) skill in writing clearly and concisely in English; and (5) knowledge of one or more of the major foreign languages of the region.

Please bring this announcement to the attention of researchers and graduate students who may be interested.

Completed applications should be submitted by January 29th. For more information, see OPM website www.usajobs.opm.gov/wfic/jobs, announcement number AR0653.
I look at the Miami Herald website everyday to keep up on the media-sponsored statewide recount. The Herald and Knight Ridder hired an accounting firm to review votes. Yesterday, the Herald report that NORC had been hired by a consortium of media (including the New York Times, Washington Post, etc.) to do a second review. Does anyone have thoughts on how a research firm and an accounting firm might approach this same challenge differently? Just curious.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
Des Moines, Iowa
Interesting question.
Out of curiosity, has anyone seen data on what people think about planned demonstrations on Inaugural Day? Do people plan to demonstrate (in their area and/or in Washington, DC), or would they do so if they lived near parade/inaugural balls?
(Info on protest plans: http://www.iacenter.org/)

Also, anyone know of national data related to electricity supply problems in California? Thanks, mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu [mailto:owner-aapornet@usc.edu]On Behalf Of JAnnSelzer@aol.com
Sent: Thursday, January 11, 2001 2:18 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: The Florida Count

I look at the Miami Herald website everyday to keep up on the media-sponsored statewide recount. The Herald and Knight Ridder hired an accounting firm to review votes. Yesterday, the Herald report that NORC had been hired by a consortium of media (including the New York Times, Washington Post, etc.) to do a second review.
Does anyone have thoughts on how a research firm and an accounting firm might approach this same challenge differently? Just curious.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
Des Moines, Iowa

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Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

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    "*/
  </head>
  <style>
    /* Font Definitions */
    @font-face {
      font-family: Tahoma;
      panose-1: 2 11 6 4 3 5 4 4 2 4;
      mso-font-charsel: 0;
      mso-generic-font-family: swiss;
      mso-font-pitch: variable;
      mso-font-signature: 553679495 -2147483648 8 0 66047 0;}
    /* Style Definitions */
    p.MsoNormal, li.MsoNormal, div.MsoNormal
      {mso-style-parent: "";
       margin: 0in;
       margin-bottom: 0.0001pt;
       mso-pagination: widow-orphan;
       font-size: 12.0pt;
       font-family: "Times New Roman";
       mso-fareast-font-family: "Times New Roman";}
    a:link, span.MsoHyperlink
      {color: blue;
       text-decoration: underline;
       text-underline: single;}
    a:visited, span.MsoHyperlinkFollowed
      {color: purple;
       text-decoration: underline;}
  </style>
</html>
Interesting question.<o:p></o:p>

Out of curiosity, has anyone seen data on what people think about planned demonstrations on Inaugural Day?<o:p></o:p>

Do people plan to demonstrate (in their area and/or in Washington, DC), or would they do so if they lived near parade/inaugural balls?<o:p></o:p>

Also, anyone know of national data related to electricity supply problems in California?

Thanks, = mark

-----Original Message-----
From: owner-aapornet@usc.edu
On Behalf
I look at the Miami Herald website everyday to keep up on the media-sponsored statewide recount. The Herald and Knight Ridder hired an accounting firm to review votes. Yesterday, the Herald report that NORC had been hired by a consortium of media (including the New York Times, Washington Post, etc.) to do a second review. Does anyone have thoughts on how a research firm and an accounting firm might approach this same challenge differently? Just curious.

J. Ann Selzer, Ph.D.
Selzer & Company
Des Moines, Iowa

---_NextPart_000_000C_01C07BE0.34E24A30--
Nancy - I would appreciate a hard copy of your teacher poll. Please to me at:
   2 cleveland ave.
       highland park, ny 08904
Thanks,
   Harry O'Neill
Quantitative Associate, Technographics
Cambridge, Massachusetts

FORR/R-QA

Description:
The Quantitative Associate, Technographics=AE, is a member of a team that compiles, writes, and publishes reports and data analyzing consumers' technology adoption and usage patterns. This person will be responsible for quality assurance of data published, working with our client services team in interfacing with clients, managing relationships with strategic data providers, and organizing data generally for the team's use.

Responsibilities:

- Act as quality assurance for all data in all Technographics=AE research:
  - Review the quantitative component of all draft publications: data, overviews, briefs, and reports.
  - Work with members of our Technographics=AE client services teams to answer client requests and work on special projects as needed.
  - Assist in the development of mail, online and telephone surveys and in the analysis of survey data.
  - Prepare Technographics=AE data files and relevant documentation for distribution to clients.
  - Assess and manage relationships with strategic data providers.
  - Manage the acquisition of new software and maintain software renewals.
Maintain research archive of all Technographics data files.

Requirements:
- B.A/ B.S. Sociology, Psychology, Science, Math, Economics, or Marketing majors preferred. Master's degree with a quantitative concentration plus.
- A strong academic record with a background in statistics and an understanding of qualitative analysis.
- Experience with graphics programs and statistical software packages (SPSS, SAS, etc.).
- One to two years of previous work experience, preferably in a quantitative research or data management position.
- Analytical, articulate, highly organized and detail-oriented, and self-motivated.

Forrester is an equal opportunity employer and is committed to providing a work environment free from all forms of discrimination, including sexual harassment.

Please forward your letter, resume and salary requirements to Steve Yonish (syonish@forrester.com).
Technographics research: review the quantitative component of all draft publications: data overviews, briefs, and reports. Work with members of our client services teams to answer client requests and work on special projects as needed. Assist in the development of mail, online and telephone surveys and in the analysis of survey data. Prepare Technographics data files and relevant documentation for distribution to clients. Assess and manage relationships with strategic data providers. Manage the acquisition of new software and maintain software renewals. Maintain research archive of all Technographics data files.

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Please forward your letter, resume and salary requirements to Steve Yonish (syonish@forrester.com).

Research shows that 97.5% of all email solicitations are liberally sprinkled with exclamation points. So, this is your reminder that next Wednesday is an opportunity for:

--Friendly people!
--Complimentary cocktails!
--Good food!
--Door prizes!
--Panoramic view!
--Gift exchange*!

*If you would like to participate in a post-holiday gift exchange, please bring a holiday gift that you are eager to trade!

IT'S NOT TOO LATE TO JOIN THE FUN!!

Social Event - Food, cocktails and soft drinks provided

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 17, 2001
6:30-8:30 p.m.

Location: USA Today, 17th Floor
1000 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA

Parking: Available at 1000 Wilson (@ N. Arlington Ridge Rd.)
Gate will open if closed.
Take elevator from garage to "mall."
Walk to USA Today front desk.

Metro: Ride Blue or Orange Line to Rosslyn.
Walk to Gannett Tower, 1100 Wilson (@ Lynn St.).
Take escalator from lower mall up to mall level.
Follow mallway to USA Today front desk.

RSVP: Cost is $20.00 per person, payable to DC/AAPOR at the door (unless you already mailed your check). If you have not done so already, please let us know you plan to attend by e-mailing dc-aapor.admin@erols.com or calling Audrey Kindlon at 301-897-4413 by Monday, January 15.

Note: If you prefer not to receive e-mail notices in the future, please reply to dc-aapor.admin@erols.com.

Topic: Evaluation of a New Methodology and Technology for Measuring Respondent Compliance with a Survey Task

Date & Time: Friday, February 9, 2001, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Speaker: Brian Harris-Kojetin, The Arbitron Company

NEW Location: The Urban Institute  
Conference Room 5A (Fifth Floor)
2100 M Street, NW  
Washington, DC  
Enterance on 21st St. between L & M Streets  
Report to Receptionist on the fifth floor for directions to conference room

Metro: DuPont Circle, Red Line  
Take the South Exit, proceed south on 19th St.  
for 2 blocks to M Street;  
Turn right onto M Street and proceed 2 blocks to 21st Street;  
Turn left onto 21st Street and proceed half a block to Entrance
Abstract:
Researchers distribute self-administered surveys to gather data about a wide variety of topics; however, they typically know little or nothing about how respondents completed their survey. For example, respondents who keep diary surveys may conscientiously record every relevant item when it occurs, or may do so shortly afterwards, or may rely on recall days later. Arbitron has traditionally measured people's use of radio through diary surveys, but has recently developed a new technology for passively and electronically measuring a person's exposure to electronic media. This technology is capable of placing an inaudible code in the audio stream of radio and television broadcasts that can be detected by a portable device the size of a pager. As long as respondents carry this portable meter, their exposure to the encoded media signals will be passively detected and recorded. The device also incorporates a motion detector providing a unique opportunity to measure how well respondents comply with the tasks they are asked to perform, in this case carrying the meter. Results of a large-scale field test conducted in the UK will be presented showing how well respondents complied with the tasks of carrying the device as well as how well the meter performed in measuring media usage. Implications of this methodology for measuring other phenomena and monitoring respondent compliance with data collection tasks will be discussed.

This program is co-sponsored by the American Association for Public Opinion Research Washington/Baltimore Chapter and the WSS Data Collection Methods Section.
Rob,

Could we invite people to arrive earlier, say 12 noon and bring their lunches for a social time before the talk? That used to be part of our standard AAPOR seminar, though not the Washington Statistics Society.

(fran)

Fran Featherston
U.S. General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548
202.512.4946

---

>>> RSantos@ui.urban.org 01/12/01 03:13PM >>>

Topic: Evaluation of a New Methodology and Technology for Measuring Respondent Compliance with a Survey Task

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Turn left onto 21st Street and proceed half a block to Entrance  
Entrance is on west side of 21st, between M & L Streets 

RSVP: To be placed on the visitors list, send e-mail to  
audrey.kindlon@us.pwcglobal.com or dc-aapor.admin@erols.com or call Audrey Kindlon  
at 301-897-4413 by Wednesday, February 2, 2001. 

Abstract: Researchers distribute self-administered surveys to gather data about a wide variety  
of topics; however, they typically know little or nothing about how respondents  
completed their survey. For example, respondents who keep diary surveys may conscientiously record every relevant item when it occurs, or may do so shortly  
afterwards, or may rely on recall days later. Arbitron has traditionally measured  
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American Association for Public Opinion Research Washington/Baltimore Chapter  
and the  
WSS Data Collection Methods Section
AAPORnetters,

Matt Manweller, one of my survey methodology graduate students from UO's political science department asked me to ask you the following:

"Does anyone have data on how people feel about the state initiative process, or the levels of direct democracy that they feel is appropriate?"

For context: Oregon's referendum, initiative, and recall process allows citizens to make laws and modify the state constitution. A relatively small number of registered voters sign a petition (and interest groups often use paid solicitors to obtain sufficient petition signatures). Then a ballot measure is placed on the statewide ballot.

In Oregon's November general election, the ballot contained fully **61** such ballot measures.

Matt is considering doing his doctoral dissertation on the initiative process and other systems of direct citizen democracy in the states. We have recently
gathered
some behavioral and attitudinal data on the November ballot in Oregon, but
having
data from other states would assist him greatly.

If you have such data and are able to share it, or if you have any ideas on
this
topic that you think would assist him, please contact Matt
directly: Mathew Shon Manweller <mmanwell@darkwing.uoregon.edu>

Thank you,
Patty

Patricia A. Gwartney, Ph.D.
Professor Founding Director
Department of Sociology Oregon Survey Research Laboratory
1291 University of Oregon 5245 University of Oregon
Eugene OR 97403-1291 USA Eugene OR 97403-5245 USA

E-mail: pattygg@oregon.uoregon.edu http://darkwing.uoregon.edu/~osrl
Telephone: (541) 346-5007
Facsimile: (541) 346-5026

AAPORnetters,
I belatedly realized that the "context" section of my inquiry to AAPORnet 1/13/01
glossed an important detail about Oregon's initiative process. The manner in which I expressed it suggested that *all* 61 measures went to *all* voters in Oregon's November ballot.
If fact, voters in different jurisdictions (city, county, various districts, state) considered differing numbers of measures on their ballots. Statewide, across the differing jurisdictions, Oregon had 61 separate citizen-initiated ballot measures (making things very difficult for those who prepare ballots).

I hope this helps.
** FINAL NOTICE **

General Social Survey Student Paper Competition

The National Opinion Research Center (NORC) at the University of Chicago announces the latest annual General Social Survey (GSS) Student Paper Competition. To be eligible papers must: 1) be based on data from the 1972-1998 GSSs or from the GSS's cross-national component, the International Social Survey Program (any year or combination of years may be used), 2) represent original and unpublished work, and 3) be written by a student or students at an accredited college or university. Both undergraduates and graduate students may enter and college...
graduates are eligible for one year after receiving their degree. Recent college graduates who completed an appropriate undergraduate or senior honors thesis are encouraged to consider submitting such research. Professors are urged to inform their students of this opportunity.

The papers will be judged on the basis of their: a) contribution to expanding understanding of contemporary American society, b) development and testing of social science models and theories, c) statistical and methodological sophistication, and d) clarity of writing and organization. Papers should be less than 40 pages in length (including tables, references, appendices, etc.) and should be double spaced.

Paper will be judged by the principal investigators of the GSS (James A. Davis and Tom W. Smith) with assistance from a group of leading scholars. Separate prizes will be awarded to the best undergraduate and best graduate-level entries. Entrants should indicate in which group they are competing. Winners will receive a cash prize of $250, a commemorative plaque, and SPSS Base, the main statistical analysis package of SPSS. SPSS Base is donated by SPSS, Inc. of Chicago, Illinois. Honorable mentions may also be awarded by the judges.

Two copies of each paper must be received by February 15, 2001. The winner will be announced in late April, 2001. Send entries to:

Tom W. Smith
General Social Survey
National Opinion Research Center
1155 East 60th St.
Chicago, IL 60637

For further information:

Phone: 773-256-6288
Fax: 773-753-7886
Email: smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu

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For further information:

Phone: 773-256-6288
Fax: 773-753-7886
Email: smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu
Mary Achatz, Ph.D.
Senior Study Director

-----Original Message-----
From: smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu [mailto:smitht@norcmail.uchicago.edu]
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2001 2:25 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: No subject given

** FINAL NOTICE **

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Dear All:

I have been tapped to do a demographic column for a Web Based publication of the Citizens Union called the Gotham Gazette. It claims 2,000 unique user page views per day. The URL for my first column is below.

http://www.gothamgazette.com/demographics/

The question that I discuss is the following.

"... the numbers that the Census Bureau found in New York were far larger than the estimates the Bureau had made. Comparing its estimate with the population the Census Bureau actually found, New York State has about 830,000 "extra people."

"New Yorkers and others will ask: "Who are these 'extra' 830,000? Where do they live? Why were they missing until Census 2000?" The answers to these questions could have effects on the balance of political power in New York State, as well as on the distribution of federal and state funds."

By the way this was also true for California, Texas, Florida, Illinois, Washington, DC, etc.

Andy

Andrew A. Beveridge  
209 Kissena Hall  
Department of Sociology  
Queens College and Grad Ctr/CUNY  
Flushing, NY 11367-1597  
Phone: 718-997-2837  
Fax: 718-997-2820  
E-Mail: andy@troll.soc.qc.edu  
Website: http://www.soc.qc.edu/Maps

Home Office  
50 Merriam Avenue  
Bronxville, NY 10708  
Phone: 914-337-6237  
Fax: 914-337-8210
No mention of this in recent days' mail, so here from a reliable source is (with luck) the newest horror.

Phil Harding
paharding7@aol.com
In a message dated 1/15/01 4:24:35 PM Eastern Standard Time, Ctminsf writes:

<<
NOT BE ABLE TO USE YOUR COMPUTER AGAIN. >>
Hi, all!

I just received this virus alert, sent by a reliable friend. I have no way of verifying if this is a hoax or for real, but - as we've just seen in the papers (4 teen-agers arrested for attempting to take down the Web) - given the malicious mind-set of numerous techies, all things are possible.

The best place apparently to check it is the CNN website, which allegedly put out the first warning, but I'm not sure of their address.

Also, if there is an attachment with this message, DON'T OPEN IT! as I did not include one.

At any rate, here it is. Do with it as you will.

Cheers!     Doug

Date: Mon, 15 Jan 2001 10:25:42 -0700
From: Leona Luba <lluba@earthlink.net>
Organization: Santa Fe Properties, Inc.
Subject: [Fwd: PLEASE READ IMMEDIATELY]

Subject: VIRUS

VIRUS WITH NO CURE:

PLEASE, SEND THIS INFORMATION TO EVERY PERSON IN YOUR ADDRESS BOOK.

IF YOU RECEIVE AN E-MAIL THAT READS "UPGRADE INTERNET" DO NOT OPEN IT, AS IT CONTAINS AN EXECUTABLE FILE NAMED "PERRIN.EXE."

IT WILL ERASE ALL THE DATA IN YOUR HARD DRIVE AND IT WILL STAY IN YOUR MEMORY. EVERYTIME THAT YOU UPLOAD ANY DATA, IT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY ERASED AND YOU WILL NOT BE ABLE TO USE YOUR COMPUTER AGAIN.

THIS INFORMATION WAS PUBLISHED YESTERDAY IN THE CNN WEB SITE. THIS IS A VERY DANGEROUS VIRUS. TO THIS DATE, THERE IS NO KNOWN ANTIVIRUS PROGRAM FOR THIS PARTICULAR VIRUS.

S. Frank Meroney

Douglas Stewart, One Cerrado Court, Santa Fe, NM 87505
Tel /FX  505-466-4724 * Stewart@rt66.com
Dear colleagues:

I seek help in tracking down data on urbanism by zip-code. At the same time I want to foreshadow the imminent release of a major new source of survey data on American community life.

With support from a consortium of three dozen community foundations nationwide and with the help of TSNI, my colleagues and I have just completed a large nationwide survey of civic engagement, community bonds, and social capital. We conducted 25-minute RDD interviews with more than 30,000 respondents in a nationally representative sample plus forty representative samples of communities nationwide from Los Angeles to Boston and from Bismarck to Baton Rouge. Because all participants in this project wish to encourage research on these issues, the complete data-set will be put into the public domain (via the Roper Center) as soon as technically feasible—probably in early March.

As part of our initial report, we wish to do quick cross-breaks of the data by degree of urbanism. The data include zip-code, but no summary measure of urbanism. Does any participant on this list know of any convenient source for a simple classification of zip-codes by degree of urbanism (on, say, a 7- or 8-point scale)?

Many thanks in advance for your help.

Bob Putnam

Robert D. Putnam
Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
<http://ksgwww.harvard.edu/saguaro/>
Folks,

In fact this is a hoax. Please see the following URL:


PLEASE, if you ever have a question about whether a virus warning is real, go to www.sarc.com first. They have a section of the site devoted specifically to hoaxes.

Thanks,

Mike


-----Original Message-----
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com [mailto:PAHARDING7@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2001 10:25 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Fwd: "Perrin.exe" virus alert

No mention of this in recent days' mail, so here from a reliable source is (with luck) the newest horror.

Phil Harding
Not more than about 3 years ago I read or listened to the presentation of a paper reporting an experiment, in which subjects (i.e. students, if I remember correctly) were exposed to a sound recording of the Nixon-Kennedy debate and asked to make a judgment.

If anyone could provide me with a reference or a lead, it would be very much appreciated.

Kurt Lang, Prof. emeritus
Dept. of Sociology
University of Washington
Seattle, WA 98195-3340
Home Address:
1249 20th Ave. E.
Seattle, WA 98112-3530
Tel. (206) 325-4569
FAX (at UW) 206-543-2516
The Claritus database should have the variables needed for you to operationalize "urbanism" as you so choose.

-----Original Message-----
From: Robert D. Putnam [mailto:robert_putnam@harvard.edu]
Sent: Monday, January 15, 2001 10:43 PM
To: AAPORNET@usc.edu
Subject: Urbanism data source?

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Bob Putnam

Robert D. Putnam
Kennedy School of Government
Harvard University
Cambridge, MA 02138
<http://ksgwww.harvard.edu/saguaro/>
Do you know about this? Sounds kind of like your elites thing

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Sent: Monday, January 15, 2001 7:43 PM
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Many thanks in advance for your help.

Bob Putnam
Liberty Greene would like to recall the message, "Urbanism data source?".

Are there early releases of exit poll data sets from either the LA Times or VNS (either national or state samples) that are available at present? Does anyone know when the actual data will be made available, if it is not already?
The VNS data sets are now available for purchase. Contact Lee C. Shapiro at leec.shapiro@vnsusa.org for more information.
The LA Times exit polls (national and Calif) are available at the Roper Center.

Susan

-----Original Message-----
From: Ron Rapoport [SMTP:rbrapo@wm.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, January 16, 2001 2:31 PM
To:   AAPORNET
Subject:    Exit Poll Data

Are there early releases of exit poll data sets from either the LA Times or VNS (either national or state samples) that are available at present?  Does anyone know when the actual data will be made available, if it is not already?

The LA Times exit polls, both the national and California samples, will be available for purchase from the Roper Center at an early release date of February 7, 2001. Member institutions will also have access to the data at the time. For more information or to place an order please contact Marilyn Milliken at 860-486-4440 or by email at marilyn@ropercenter.uconn.edu.
Has a report been issued by VNS that analyzes the quality of their exiting polling in the Presidential election?

As others have remarked, the November election has provided us teachers of research methods with many years' worth of new materials... I've collected some of these materials, but would also like my students to read the VNS analysis, as well, for the "sampling" and "survey method" sections of my "introduction to research methods" course.
Dear Kurt: I don't have a reference to an experiment on exposing students to the Nixon-Kennedy debate, but could you use one on exposing students to William Jennings Bryan in the flesh? Stuart A. Rice and Malcolm M Willey did this at Dartmouth in 1923, with before and after measures of attitude toward evolution. See Ch. 18 of Rice's pioneering book, Quantitative Methods in Politics, NY: Knopf, 1928. (Lazarsfeld bought the last box-full of these books from the publisher and used to have them to hand out at the BASR.)

More accessible may be the Willey and Rice article "William Jennings Bryan as a Social Force," in The Journal of Social Forces, March 1924. I was using the Rice book as a source for my article on Paul Lazarsfeld forthcoming in the International Journal of Public Opinion Research's special issue on PFL - who pointed out that Rice did the first known panel study, of students at Dartmouth during the 1924 election, also reported in his book.

Best regards -
Allen Barton - 118 Wolfs Trail - Chapel Hill, NC 27516

----- Original Message -----
Not more than about 3 years ago I read or listened to the presentation of a paper reporting an experiment, in which subjects (i.e. students, if I remember correctly) were exposed to a sound recording of the Nixon-Kennedy debate and asked to make a judgment.

If anyone could provide me with a reference or a lead, it would be very much appreciated.

Kurt Lang, Prof. emeritus
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1249 20th Ave. E.
Seattle, WA 98112-3530
Tel. (206) 325-4569
FAX (at UW) 206-543-2516

From beniger@rcf.usc.edu Wed Jan 17 21:47:27 2001
Received: from almaak.usc.edu (beniger@almaak.usc.edu [128.125.253.167])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id VAA14969 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jan 2001 21:47:27 -0800 (PST)
Received: from localhost (beniger@localhost)
by almaak.usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
id VAA14752 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 17 Jan 2001 21:47:26 -0800 (PST)
Date: Wed, 17 Jan 2001 21:47:26 -0800 (PST)
From: James Beniger <beniger@rcf.usc.edu>
To: AAPORNET <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: POLL POINTS OUT IMAGE PROBLEMS FOR THE OLYMPICS (NY Times)
Message-ID: <Pine.GSO.4.21.0101172145230.18917-100000@almaak.usc.edu>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: TEXT/PLAIN; charset=US-ASCII

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January 11, 2001

ADVERTISING:

POLL POINTS OUT IMAGE PROBLEMS FOR THE OLYMPICS

By PATRICIA WINTERS LAURO

The Olympic Games remain a strong international
brand for potential advertisers, but recent developments ranging from over-commercialization to the publicized use of performance-enhancing drugs by athletes has tarnished the Games' once-golden image, according to a new global consumer poll by the McCann-Erickson World Group.

McCann -- a unit of the Interpublic Group of Companies -- surveyed 1,850 consumers in 46 countries to determine the value of the Olympics to advise its clients like Coca-Cola and others, which spend millions of dollars associating with the Games.

McCann discovered that the Olympics has two conflicting images: one symbolizes the high-minded, universal ideals associated with the brand over a long time; the other represents contemporary troubles like drug and political scandals and related media coverage, which is often negative.

"These two brands appear to paradoxically coexist in the minds of most consumers," concluded a summary of the report, which is titled "Worldwide Consumer Perceptions of the Olympic Games."

"While the brand ideal has been generally unaffected by the brand reality -- drug scandals, commercialization and the personal and political controversies -- awareness of and concern with those issues have not simply vanished."

Still, the ability of the Olympics to transcend other sporting events as more than just athletic competitions attests to the strength of the brand in the face of scandal, said Joseph Plummer, McCann-Erickson World Group's director of brand strategy and research. He said the Games had maintained their spirit as an international symbol of nations joining together for honest competition in a setting where even the smallest countries can be victorious.

"In spite of all the trauma around it, the Olympics as a brand is alive and well," Mr. Plummer said. "The Olympics maintain a wonderful egalitarian flair."

But marketers should not ignore the emerging negativity associated with the Olympics. A startling and potentially devastating finding of the survey was that while the Olympics still held a special place among adults older than 40, younger people viewed the Olympics as "getting worse rather than better, and it has to do with drugs and over-commercialization," Mr. Plummer
One marketer that has been associated with the Games, the United Parcel Service, said last month that it would not renew its global sponsorship with the International Olympic Committee for the 2002 Winter and 2004 Summer Games. The company said that the sponsorship had greatly expanded its worldwide brand awareness but that an increased investment with the committee was not likely to yield similar successful results.

Based on the survey's findings, Mr. Plummer said consumers were telling marketers and the media not to over-commercialize the events -- an odd comment coming from an ad agency. But Mr. Plummer said consumers were willing to accept commercialization if it was done appropriately. He pointed to Coca-Cola's torch run as an example of how a client associated with the event without over-hyping its link. Last year's broadcasts from Sydney were criticized for running too many commercials in the delayed showings, and some advertisers were faulted for inappropriate commercials. Nike was criticized for a TV spot that featured the American track runner Suzy Hamilton sprinting away from a maniac wielding a chain saw. And though the staging of the Sydney games received high marks, the 1996 games in Atlanta were attacked for crass commercialization.

"People are concerned about the next step -- that athletes will be covered in logos and each race will be sponsored," Mr. Plummer said. "They are saying we're starting to push the limits of commercialization and to try to control it and to use a little common sense."

Another way to bolster the image of the Olympics would be to train the athletes in good manners, suggested Mark Dowley, vice chairman of McCann-Erickson World Group's Marketing Communications Companies. He said the preening celebration of the sprinter Maurice Greene and his team after winning the 400-meter relay race was "downright embarrassing" and contrasted sharply with the graciousness of the Australian swimming team's victory. He said the incident probably hurt their image with corporate America as guests and endorsers.

"They probably would've done a lot better," Mr. Dowley said. "There is now an opportunity for people who know how to manage athletes and image issues to sit down with athletes and explain to them before the Olympics start about the benefits
of the Olympics and acting as representatives of your country and your sport. The bottom line is financial."

The survey also found that many people were upset about the time lag with Australia and that announcements of outcomes often preceded the viewing of the events in much of the world. This finding sounds a warning bell to marketers to "synchronize and orchestrate" their Olympic advertising and marketing. Mr. Plummer said.

"Simply being out there isn't enough," he added.

Bill Miller, director of national broadcast for CIA Medianetworks US, a unit of the London-based Tempus Group, which buys media for clients like J. P. Morgan Chase and Barnes & Noble, agreed that the Olympics had its problems but was still an excellent opportunity for advertisers.

While the Olympics is no longer the required viewing experience it was for past generations, he said few programs could draw mass audiences in today's media environment, where so many choices exist. The Olympic Games drew about 14 million households -- below the 18 million NBC promised, but still far above the average television viewing audience, he said.

"Comparatively speaking, that's not bad," Mr. Miller said. "Clearly some different things have to be done. But it's an enormous event, and I think you'll find that clients, by and large, find it to be very successful."


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>From cporter@hp.ufl.edu Thu Jan 18 18:07:32 2001
Received: from makalu.hp.ufl.edu (makalu.hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.150])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id SAA02474 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 18 Jan 2001 18:07:32 -0800
(PST)
Received: from hp.ufl.edu (hp.ufl.edu [128.227.11.149])
  by makalu.hp.ufl.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id VAA08380
  for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 18 Jan 2001 21:07:32 -0500
Received: from K2/SpoolDir by hp.ufl.edu (Mercury 1.48);
  18 Jan 01 21:07:27 -0400
Received: from SpoolDir by K2 (Mercury 1.48); 18 Jan 01 21:07:03 -0400
Okay, here's a query or two for all you folks who edit reports, crank out tables, generate spiffy bar charts, etc.

First, is there a style guide aimed at report writing rather than academic papers? I want to buy a style guide for my proofreader, who is really wonderful, but we occasionally differ on what is "right." (Her experience is in the magazine biz.)

I cut my academic teeth on the Publication Manual of the American Psychological Association, but I would argue that there are times it doesn't serve me well for reports, since its primary purpose is more for academic articles.

For example, we have found our clients love a chartbook format, with each page having an explanatory paragraph describing a graph or table. For those blurbs, I think a % sign is perfectly okay, although technically percent in text should be written out.

Second question: Any ideas on software for generating cool graphs for a Windows machine? I am a Macintosh person, and loved DeltaGraph. Since entering the Windows world a few years back, I have been forced to produce some reports with just MS Word--I am less than thrilled. With two projects slated for this year, it would really be worth it to invest in something more elegant. Any tips or warnings?

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109
UF Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-016
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195
What kind of sampling do you do that gives you 1,850 consumers in 46 countries? And how do you weight them?

Bob Worcester

>>> beniger@rcf.usc.edu 18/01/01 05:47:26 >>>

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Content-Type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

What kind of sampling do you do that gives you 1,850 consumers in 46 countries? And how do you weight them?

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"In spite of all the trauma around it, the Olympics as a brand is alive and well," Mr. Plummer said. "The Olympics maintain a wonderful egalitarian flair."

But marketers should not ignore the emerging negativity associated with the Olympics. A startling and potentially devastating finding of the survey was that while the Olympics still held a special place among adults older than 40, younger people viewed the Olympics as "getting worse rather than better, and it has to do with drugs and over-commercialization," Mr. Plummer said.

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> beniger@rcf.usc.edu 18/01/01 05:47:26

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January 11, 2001

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Scholars Should Take Care in Studying the Internet, a Journal Article Warns
By JESSICA LUDWIG

One of the pioneers of mass-communication research advises scholars who are studying the Internet to learn from the mistakes of earlier researchers.

In the current issue of Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly, Guido H. Stempel III writes that academic research into television audiences lagged behind industry studies, which disseminated inaccurate data that scholars then used. This time around, he says, researchers need to measure audience numbers accurately, be specific in their surveys, and read data carefully.

The Nielsen ratings, which count the number of television sets tuned in to a program, gave a skewed view of television audiences in the 1950's, according to Mr. Stempel. The ratings did not provide reliable information about who, if anyone, was actually watching the television programs or advertisements, he says.

"Nielsen ratings did not tell us anything about the demographics of the people watching," says Mr. Stempel, a professor emeritus of journalism at Ohio University. "You couldn't take the numbers and apply them to groups, as we were led to believe."

Researchers mistakenly interpreted the Nielsen ratings to reflect trends in the larger public, he says. They also speculated on audience preferences based on advertisements that appeared during programs. "We used the ratings to say 21 percent of the people watching are interested in buying a Chevrolet. This was an inference of Olympic proportions."

In the article, which appears in the journal's Autumn 2000 issue, Mr. Stempel warns researchers to recognize the limits within which they can accurately apply their results to a broader audience. He writes that researchers studying the Internet should perform controlled experiments to gather data on users' format and content preferences, information that is lacking for television audiences.

Mr. Stempel argues that Internet researchers can learn more about Web audiences if they carefully define their research methods. Records of Web-site traffic can give an approximation of audience size, but researchers need to agree on how to measure numbers across the Internet. Sites measure their traffic in different ways, including hit counts, page views, or use of items on a page.

Setting standards for Internet studies among researchers will not be easy, says Mr. Stempel. And he writes that getting permission from site owners to make their Web-site records public will be a problem. Standards, he says, "are more likely to come from academia than from commercial sources because there's no money to be made from it." But then there's still the dilemma of how widely any agreed-upon standards would be adopted.

Steve Jones, head of the communications department at the University of
Illinois at Chicago, says researchers must take into account that the Internet differs from television and newspapers because the audience has an interactive role in the medium. It allows interpersonal communication of news and is more personalized, since users can customize it to their own preferences. "You can use the Internet in some of the same ways" as television, Mr. Jones says. "But comparing the Internet with television news is like comparing apples and oranges."

Mr. Jones says mass-communication researchers "are already behind the curve of commercial research." He adds that Mr. Stempel's article wrongly gives the reader "an understanding that the Internet is relatively homogeneous and static." He says current research needs to take into account advanced technologies like XML and must look forward to further advances.

Mr. Stempel, who has been on Ohio's E.W. Scripps School of Journalism faculty for more than 35 years and is a former editor of Journalism Quarterly, was one of four Ph.D. recipients in mass communication at the University of Wisconsin at Madison when he graduated, in 1954. He recalls that the first communications-research center was established at the University of Minnesota-Twin Cities during the 1940's.

Mr. Stempel says that the Internet poses "problems that are not brand new, just a little different in nature and maybe in severity." And he believes that the amount of research in the field is encouraging and that quantity will produce quality. In 1956, he says, 10 research papers would typically be presented at a communications-research conference; now, the number is more like 400.

Mr. Stempel's article, "The Internet Provides Both Opportunities and Challenges for Mass Communications Researchers," is not available online, but information about the Journalism and Mass Communication Quarterly can be found at http://gwis.circ.gwu.edu/~jmcq/

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http://chronicle.com/free/2001/01/2001011901t.htm

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Leo G. Simonetta
Art & Science Group, LLC
simonetta@artsci.com

>From rasinski@norcmail.uchicago.edu Fri Jan 19 10:56:32 2001
Received: from scf-fs.usc.edu (root@scf-fs.usc.edu [128.125.253.183])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id KAA21444 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 10:56:32 -0800
(PST)
From: rasinski@norcmail.uchicago.edu
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(PST)
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    by genesis1.norc.uchicago.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with SMTP id MAA03554
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 12:14:13 -0600
The National Opinion Research Center at the University of Chicago, located in Chicago, IL is seeking candidates for the following positions.

SURVEY DIRECTOR

Candidate will be able to manage large, complex project responsibilities, with individual budget responsibilities. This individual will also have responsibility for supporting proposal efforts by authoring sections of proposals. Will have both project and administrative supervisory responsibilities: responsibility for the day-to-day performance of others. Required is advanced knowledge of the principles, processes, and methods of survey research through extensive reading in the literature and broad experience in the field; knowledge in at least one substantive or methodological area; working knowledge of routine sampling and statistical weighting procedures; demonstrated skills in quantitative analysis; thorough knowledge of and strong skills in task management; and general familiarity with social science research and policy issues.

Bachelor's degree required. Master's or Ph.D. in field of social science strongly preferred; 4 years experience in positions of increasing responsibility in survey research or related field, with some experience in task management. Must have demonstrable experience in the supervision of multiple tasks and staff levels.

SURVEY SPECIALIST

Project management and/or significant production/support responsibilities. Will: 1) design or assist in designing data collection methodologies and procedures, questionnaires, and data collection forms as specified by the task leader and project director; 2) assist the data collection task leader by working with various implementation procedures; 3) assist with training of interviewers; 4) prepare deliverables; 5) assist in preparation for meetings of a technical review or science advisory panel; 6) supervise the work of staff assigned to the task team; 7) assume responsibility for review and final edit of all task materials before submission to the project director; 8) monitor task production, schedule and budget; and other administrative tasks.

Required is a working knowledge of the principles, processes and
methods of survey research, sampling procedure, quantitative analysis, project management skills, excellent verbal and written communication skills, and a solid understanding of basic mathematics. A Bachelor's or Master's in the field of social science is preferred.

Interested candidates should send a resume and cover letter to Ruth Yohanan, NORC, 1155 East 60th Street, Chicago, IL 60637. Fax (773) 753-7808 or e-mail to yohanah-ruth@norcmail.uchicago.edu

>From mbednarz@umich.edu Fri Jan 19 11:05:18 2001
Received: from stayawayjoe.mr.itd.umich.edu (stayawayjoe.mr.itd.umich.edu [141.211.144.15])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id LAA04796 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 11:05:16 -0800 (PST)
Received: from s-isr-m1.umich.edu (isr.umich.edu [141.211.207.35])
    by stayawayjoe.mr.itd.umich.edu (8.9.3/3.3rav) with ESMTP id OAA15364 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:05:14 -0500 (EST)
Received: by isr.umich.edu with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
    id <Y01YZLZS>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:05:22 -0500
Message-ID: <C51FC99D34C9D311BF8600508B121AA43261A6@s-isr-m2.isr.umich.edu>
From: Marlene Bednarz <mbednarz@umich.edu>
Reply-To: Tucker_C@bls.gov
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: AAPOR: Msg from AAPOR Innovator's Award Cmte Chair, Clyde Tucker
Date: Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:03:18 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"

The delay in choosing the President has scrambled everyone's schedule. Therefore, on this Inauguration Eve, the deadline for nominations for the Innovator's Award is extended until February 1st. Be Innovative! Nominate someone! Attached is the original announcement.

Send your nominations to Tucker_C@bls.gov

----------------------------------------------
CALL FOR NOMINATIONS FOR THE INNOVATOR'S AWARD

The Innovator's Award is designed to recognize accomplishments that have occurred during the last five years or their impact first began to be felt in the field of public opinion and survey research in the last five years. These innovations, publicly available, could consist of new theories or ideas, applications, methodologies, or technological developments. It is expected that no more than one award would be given in most years, but more than one or no awards may be made in a some years, as decided by the committee on the basis of the quality of the nominations.

The awards can be given to individuals, groups, or institutions. Previous winners include Robert Groves for his work in establishing Survey Methodology as a recognized academic field unto itself; Andrew Kohut for
being an independent source of reporting on public opinion to the media through his establishment of the Pew Research Center for the People and the Press; and Thomas Piazza, Merrill Shanks, Charlie Thomas, Richard Rockwell, Thomas Smith, and William Lefes for the development of web-based products for the free dissemination of public opinion data.

Anyone can make a nomination, including members of the Innovator's Award Committee. To facilitate the work of the committee, the nominator should provide thorough documentation to support the nomination. This documentation should include the following:

1. A clear statement of the nature of the innovation. (Accompanying this statement would be material evidence of the innovation, such as, copies of printed materials, written descriptions, copies of software, graphical images and pictures).

2. A rationale for considering the accomplishment a significant innovation in the field

3. An explanation of why this innovation fits into the time period covered by the award

4. Other supporting documentation (assessments of impact by others such as usage of the innovation, etc.).

5. A draft statement to appear on the Innovator Award.

The committee's deliberations will be confidential. Once a nomination has been selected for the award, the committee will alert the winner. The award will be presented prior to the AAPOR award at the Saturday evening banquet of the annual meeting. Award winners are responsible for their own transportation and lodging at the meeting.

>From wwilliam@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu Fri Jan 19 11:26:01 2001
Received: from shiva.hunter.cuny.edu (shiva.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.128.96])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id LAA02884 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 11:26:00 -0800
(PST)
Received: from [146.95.20.18] (HE904Z3.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.20.18])
    by shiva.hunter.cuny.edu (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id OAA07292
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:29:31 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <v03007803b66e45a9355f@[146.95.20.18]>
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/enriched; charset="us-ascii"
Date: Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:29:11 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: Bill Williams <wwilliam@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>
Subject: Poll Accuracy?

Polls, Accurate to Plus or Minus Three Percent? Hardly.

Eric Burns writing for Fox News Watch, 1/4/01, about the electioneering methods of George Washington, ended his article by saying, "Remember the Polls of 2000? Could the methods of 1758 been any worse?"
Now that our venting about chads seems to be dying down, we need to remember that polling was about to take a direct hit in the media for perceived inaccuracy and large swings, which were then compounded by VNS' problems. Chads did us the favor of diverting the media focus away from polling.

Unfortunately, some of the public confusion is of our own making when we, in an attempt to be helpful, issue a poll "margin of error." This statement ensures that public really does believe that polls are accurate to plus or minus (say) three percent. Regardless of any cryptic caveats that may be attached to the statement, the statement is widely taken at face value. Anyway, it seems hardly likely that many polls are accurate to plus or minus three percent, and this the public certainly has noticed.

The problem is that the margin of error does not account for bias. Confidence intervals, which are very useful and widely used do not take any kind of bias into account -- and there are many sources of bias, all with the potential to divert the results away from reality. Does anyone really know the quantified bias effects of the ever-worsening telephone non-response? Worse, the most insidious of these biases cannot necessarily be seen by studying the data alone because they have resulted from the sampling process itself. If the actual probability of selection is correlated with the targeted variable, then selection bias is almost certain to occur. Then in turn, and even worse, this means that sample results can be manipulated by manipulating the selection process, even with a "margin of error" of three percent. I suspect that none of this is news to partisan political pollsters. And these political polls carry the same margin of error statement as every other poll.

A technical quibble. The formula used most often in calculating these "margins of error" requires the assumption of an independent sequence of events, which simply does not exist in structured socioeconomic studies. Furthermore, it can be shown that the misuse of this formula usually results in a "margin of error" that is too small.

As a profession, we need to better inform the public about the accuracy of the surveys we present to them -- variance (i.e. margin of error) is not today's problem, bias is. In the longer term, we need to shift our research efforts on effective survey designs from minimizing variance to minimizing bias. Given the seriously unhappy public of the fall of 2000, such a focus should serve us well.

W. H. Williams
Executive Director, Hunter College Big Apple Poll
Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Hunter College, City University of New York
To: Bill Williams:

A problem you didn't mention is that most polls report an overall margin of error for the total sample size, and then go on to report breakdowns by subgroups like Black, White, Hispanic, Asian or women in single-parent families, without warning that the margins of error are much greater in the subgroups. The NY Times usually has a note that margins are larger in subgroups, but that doesn't give a real idea of how large, and many press reports contain no such warning but only the total-sample margin, which is positively misleading to the readers if they then report on subgroups.

Something should be done about this, which is easier to deal with than looking at question bias or other bias, although I agree that these biases should also be noted in warnings. (Gallup sometimes used to vary wordings in random halves of the sample and report the differences -- see Hadley Cantril's 1944 classic, Gauging Public Opinion.)

Allen Barton

----- Original Message -----
From: Bill Williams
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 2:29 PM
Subject: Poll Accuracy?
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W. H. Williams
Executive Director, Hunter College Big Apple Poll
Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Hunter College, City University of New York
695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021
212-772-4656/5300

-------=_NextPart_000_0013_01C08235.D8072B80--

>From boblee@fsc-research.com Fri Jan 19 14:29:43 2001
Received: from web2.tdl.com (root@web2.tdl.com [206.180.230.2])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id OAA04318 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:29:42 -0800 (PST)
From: boblee@fsc-research.com
Received: from bob (fscnt1.fsc-research.com [206.180.228.75])
  by web2.tdl.com (8.9.1a/8.9.1) with ESMTP id OAA12589;
 Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:29:35 -0800
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Date: Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:32:31 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Subject: Research Project Manager position available
CC: boblee@fsc-research.com, cmcoffey@fsc-research.com
Message-ID: <3A684FFF.12396.1467749@localhost>
X-mailer: Pegasus Mail for Win32 (v3.12c)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT

Population Research Systems, LLC of San Francisco is looking for an experienced researcher to serve as a Project Manager. Please send inquiries to me at the address listed below.

Research Project Manager,
Population Research Systems

Population Research Systems, LLC (PRS) offers sophisticated research consultation services and primary data collection services utilizing a variety of methods for in-person, telephone, mail, and web-based applications. PRS is a leading provider of top quality consulting and survey research services to support
the population research needs of clients, who are primarily corporate, educational, governmental, and other research institutions. PRS conducts research studies that are local, statewide, and national in scope.

QUALIFICATIONS
Advanced degree in quantitatively-oriented social science or similar quantitative discipline.

Three to five years experience in a research, consulting, or similar business environment, including survey research work, research project design and project management.

RESPONSIBILITIES
Assist in the design and preparation of research proposals and projects.

Manage the scheduling, execution and reporting of research projects.

Manage research project budgets including the tracking of research project expenses.

Coordinate research project data collection.

Document all data activities.

Manage and analyze collected data.

Produce graphic presentation materials for proposals, reports, and presentations.

Maintain close liaison with assigned research project clients.

Maintain company standard office hours so as to facilitate meetings and other contact with clients, vendors, management and staff.

>From MoyL@gao.gov Fri Jan 19 14:32:03 2001
Received: from mailexchanger.gao.gov (gao-cp.gao.gov [161.203.16.1])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id OAA06934 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 14:32:02 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from gaotvcs1.gao.gov (GAOTVCS1.GAO.GOV [161.203.15.2])
    by mailexchanger.gao.gov ( /GAO ESMTP) with SMTP id f0JMU6d27908
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 17:30:06 -0500
Received: from 10.1.0.66 by gaotvcs1.gao.gov (InterScan E-Mail VirusWall NT);
Received: from GWIADOM-Message_Server by GAOGWIA1.GAO.GOV
    with Novell GroupWise; Fri, 19 Jan 2001 17:31:23 -0500
Message-Id: <sa6879eb.086@GAOGWIA1.GAO.GOV>
X-Mailer: Novell GroupWise 5.5.4
Luann Moy be out of the office, on travel status, beginning at noon, Monday, Jan. 22. She will be back in the office on Wednesday morning, Jan. 23.
Frances,

Sorry that I appear to be lagging on this. Was in Miami early this week and just got to this today. I put you on the mailing list to see the item I submitted to AAPORNET. Let me know if you get some responses!

(fran)
Fran Featherston
U.S. General Accounting Office
Washington, DC 20548
202.512.4946

***** Message from InterScan E-Mail VirusWall NT ******
** No virus found in attached file noname.htm
* All attaches were scanned by Interscan 3.5, and no viruses were found.
************* End of message *************
I'm submitting the item below for Frances Daniel and Art Graesser. Art Graesser, Professor of Psychology and Mathematical Science, is working on a wonderful project on survey question design. I've been talking to Art over the years and can attest to his careful research. (Wish we could get him to come to AAPOR this year and give a presentation!)

Send your responses directly to Frances at fdaniel21@yahoo.com
(fran)
p.s. Please note my new e-mail below (slightly simplified)
Fran Featherston
U.S. General Accounting Office
202.512.4946
FeatherstonF@gao.gov

SEND US YOUR BAD QUESTIONS

The University of Memphis is building a computer program called QUAID (Questions Understanding Aid). QUAID critiques questions from surveys, and it will be available on the web in the near future. The National Science Foundation funds this project with Dr. Art Graesser as the principal investigator.

We need your help to further test QUAID. We are looking for bad questions that have been actually used in surveys. We are especially interested in questions with one or more of the above six problems listed below. We will add your questions to our corpus of bad questions for testing the QUAID software. Along with the questions, please provide your name, address, email, telephone number, and fax number for follow-up purposes only. Any information received by the QUAID research team will be kept strictly confidential.

The QUAID program currently flags six problems that questions can impose on people:

1. Unfamiliar technical terms. These are words or expressions that few people will understand. For example, the word "infarction," is not commonly used and would create misunderstandings.
2. Vague or imprecise relative terms. For example, a term such as "rarely" has no clear-cut criteria for determining how infrequently an =

...
event occurs before it is should be counted. "Large" is another such term.

(3) Vague or ambiguous noun-phrases. For example, it may be unclear what activities and employment arrangements would count as "work," or what is meant by "health problem."

(4) Complex syntax. Such sentences are difficult to understand because they are structurally dense, ungrammatical, or have parts that are ambiguous because they can be grouped in more than one way.

(5) Working memory overload. Sentences with this attribute strain a respondent's memory.

(6) Misleading or incorrect presupposition. Such sentences have an embedded assumption that is assumed to be true, but it is false. For example, consider the classical example "Have you stopped beating your spouse?"

Please send your bad questions to Frances Daniel: fdaniel21@yahoo.com; 901-678-2364. Ms. Daniel is a student working with Dr. Graesser. Don't forget to include your name, address, emails, telephone and fax numbers.
Fran,

    Thanks. I'll let you know if I get responses.

Bob

Robert H. Lee
Director of Operations
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
131 Steuart Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-777-0707   fax 415-777-2420
http://www.fsc-research.com

The information contained in this communication is
confidential and is intended only for the use of the
addressee(s). It is the property of Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
If you have received this communication in error, please
notify us immediately by return e-mail or by e-mail
to postmaster@fsc-research.com, and destroy this
communication and all copies thereof, including
attachments.
The information contained in this communication is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). It is the property of Freeman, Sullivan & Co. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail or by e-mail to postmaster@fsc-research.com, and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including attachments.

> From milavsk2@ij.net Sat Jan 20 05:46:31 2001
> Received: from solomon (solomon.ij.net [207.22.166.254])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
> id FAA04560 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 20 Jan 2001 05:46:30 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: from [209.4.43.23] by solomon (NTMail 3.02.13) with ESMTP id
da935249 for
> <aapornet@usc.edu>; Sat, 20 Jan 2001 06:45:34 -0500
> Message-ID: <000e01c082e7$9f600420$0301a8c0@amd550>
> From: "Ron Milavsky" <milavsk2@ij.net>
> To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
> References: <3A685B80.8784.173697D0localhost>
> Subject: Re: Research Project Manager position available
> Date: Sat, 20 Jan 2001 08:47:56 -0500
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> Content-Type: text/plain;
> charset="iso-8859-1"
> Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
> X-Priority: 3
> X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
> X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2314.1300
> X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2314.1300

----- Original Message ----- 
From: <boblee@fsc-research.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Cc: <BOB@web2.tdl.com>
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 6:21 PM
Subject: Re: Research Project Manager position available

> Fran,
> Thanks. I'll let you know if I get responses.
>
> Bob
>
> Robert H. Lee
> Director of Operations
> Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
> 131 Steuart Street, Suite 500
> San Francisco, CA  94105
> 415-777-0707   fax 415-777-2420
> http://www.fsc-research.com
>
> The information contained in this communication is
RESEARCH POSITIONS Available

The company, O'Neil Associates Inc. is a full service public opinion/ market research firm with an excellent reputation and a 20 year history. The firm is small, entrepreneurial, nonbureaucratic and growing. We are continuously searching for energetic, ambitious persons who can help us continue to grow. It is recommended that all candidates view our web page located at http://www.oneilresearch.com to
find out more about our company.

Candidate profile. Should be among the "best and brightest" with a career interest in opinion research and a foundation in social science research methods and the logic of social science data processing.

Positions available. Expansion has created needs at both the entry and more advanced levels including both part and full-time positions. As a matter of philosophy, we attempt to match applicants' skills with our needs to structure an appropriate position rather than creating a rigid job profile before evaluating a candidate's "fit". For the right person, we will try to create a job that makes sense for both them and us. Current needs are strongest for a data processing person (CATI programming, preferably CI3, SPSS, etc), an experienced analyst, a project manager, and a field supervisor/field director.

Duties. Most positions include some combination of project management, client contact, proposal writing, project design, data processing, and writing analytical reports. Positions such as Analyst or Account Executive typically require a graduate degree and significant relevant experience but we are far more concerned with competency than academic degree. Requirements for other positions vary.

Computer skills. Most positions require a high degree of microcomputer literacy. A thorough mastery of Microsoft Word is presumed; desirable competencies include proficiency with CATI systems, SPSS, Access or dBase, PowerPoint or Harvard Graphics, Web page design, PC networks, and BASIC or FORTRAN programming.

Project Manager. The preferred candidate profile for a Project Manager with our firm is an individual with Social Science research and survey research training as well as some statistics training. The candidate will have had exposure to opinion research interviewing either as an interviewer or in a supervisory capacity. The candidate will be highly computer literate (see above paragraph). Project Managers are involved with client contact, research design, data processing and field supervision.

Field Operations. The ideal candidate will have had exposure to opinion research interviewing either as an interviewer or in a supervisory capacity. These positions, however, could be suitable entry-level positions for motivated recent graduates lacking specific prior experience. We promote from within whenever possible.

Analyst. An analyst candidate will typically have a graduate degree, significant relevant experience in the industry, even more advanced computer skills, and impeccable writing skills. Writing skills will include the ability to decipher crosstabular data and efficiently distill the essential findings. Analyst candidates must submit a single-authored writing sample of analysis of crosstabular data (described elsewhere). This is a position for an experienced professional, not an entry-level position.

To apply. To apply for a position, you should submit a brief cover letter indicating the nature of your professional interests and a resume to: oneil@oneilresearch.com, fax 480.967.6171, or to Michael J. O'Neil, Ph.D., President, O'Neil Associates Inc., 412 E. Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282.
RESEARCH POSITIONS Available

O’Neil Associates Inc. is a full service public opinion/ market research firm with an
excellent reputation and a 20 year history. The firm is small, entrepreneurial, nonbureaucratic and growing. We are continuously searching for energetic, ambitious persons who can help us continue to grow. It is recommended that all candidates view our web page located at [http://www.oneilresearch.com](http://www.oneilresearch.com) to find out more about our company.

Candidate profile. Should be among the "best and brightest" with a career interest in opinion research and a foundation in social science research methods and the logic of social science data processing.

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The company, Neil Associates Inc., is a full service public opinion/ market research firm with an excellent reputation and a 20 year history. The firm is small, entrepreneurial, nonbureaucratic and growing. We are continually searching for energetic, ambitious persons who can help us continue to grow. It is recommended that all candidates view our web page located at www.oneilresearch.com.
Candidate profile. Should be among the '93best and brightest' with a career interest in opinion research and a foundation in social science research methods and the logic of social science data processing.

Positions available. Expansion has created needs at both the entry and more advanced levels including both part and full-time positions. As a matter of philosophy, we attempt to match skills with our needs to structure an appropriate position rather than creating a rigid job profile before evaluating a candidate's 'fit'. For the right person, we will try to create a job that makes sense for both them and us. Current needs are strongest for a data processing person (CATI programming, preferably CI3, SPSS, etc), an experienced analyst, a project manager, and a field supervisor/field director.

Duties. Most positions include some combination of project management, client contact, proposal writing, project design, data processing, and writing analytical reports. Positions such as Analyst or Assistant count Executive typically require a graduate degree and significant relevant experience but we are far more concerned with competency than academic degree. Requirements for other positions vary.

Computer skills. Most positions require a high degree of microcomputer literacy. A thorough mastery of Microsoft Word is presumed; desirable competencies include proficiency with CATI systems, SPSS, Access or dBase, PowerPoint or Harvard Graphics, Web page design, PC networks, and BASIC or FORTRAN programming.

Project Manager. The preferred candidate profile for a Project Manager with our firm is an individual with Social Science research and survey research training as well as some statistics training. The candidate will have had exposure to opinion research in interviewing either as an interviewer or in a supervisory capacity. The candidate will be highly computer literate (see above paragraph). Project Managers are involved with client contact, research design, data processing and field supervision.

Field Operations. The ideal candidate will have had exposure to opinion research in interviewing either as an interviewer or in a supervisory capacity. These positions, however, could be suitable entry-level positions for motivated recent graduates lacking specific prior experience. We promote from within whenever possible.

Analyst. An analyst candidate will typically have a graduate degree, significant relevant experience in the industry, even more advanced computer skills, and impeccable writing skills. Writing skills will include the ability to decipher crosstabular data and efficiently distill the essential findings. Analyst candidates must submit a single-authored writing sample.
of analysis of crosstabilural data (described elsewhere). This is a position for an experienced professional, not an entry-level position.

To apply, you should submit a brief cover letter indicating the nature of your professional interests and a resume to: HMailto: oneil@oneilresearch.com, fax 480.967.6171, or to Michael J. O’Neil, Ph.D., President, O’Neil Associates Inc., 412 E. Southern Ave., Tempe, AZ 85282.

Allen: You are, of course, absolutely correct. The margins go up very quickly -- perhaps that's why they get omitted(?) Bill Williams

To: Bill Williams

A problem you didn't mention is that most polls report an overall margin of error for the total sample size, and then go on to report breakdowns by subgroups; like Black, White, Hispanic, Asian or women in single-parent families, without warning that the margins of error are much greater in the subgroups. The NY Times usually has a note that margins are larger in subgroups, but that doesn't give a real idea of how large, and many press reports contain no such warning but only the total-sample margin, which is positively misleading to the readers if they then report on subgroups. Something should be done about this, which is easier to deal with than looking at question bias or other bias, although I agree that these biases should also be noted in warnings. (Gallup sometimes used to vary wordings in random halves of the sample and report the differences -- see Hadley Cantril's 1944 classic, Gauging Public Opinion. Allen Barton
Polls, Accurate to Plus or Minus Three Percent? HARDLY.

Eric Burns writing for Fox News Watch, 1/4/01, about the electioneering methods of George Washington, ended his article by saying, "Remember the Polls of 2000? Could the methods of 1758 been any worse?" Now that our venting about chads seems to be dying down, we need to remember that polling was about to take a direct hit in the media for perceived inaccuracy and large swings, which were then compounded by VNS' problems. Chads did us the favor of diverting the media focus away from polling. Unfortunately, some of the public confusion is of our own making when we, in an attempt to be helpful, issue a poll "margin of error." This statement ensures that public really does believe that polls are accurate to plus or minus (say) three percent. Regardless of any cryptic caveats that may be attached to the statement, the statement is widely taken at face value. Anyway, it seems hardly likely that many polls are accurate to plus or minus three percent, and this the public certainly has noticed. The problem is that the margin of error does not account for bias. Confidence intervals, which are very useful and widely used do not take any kind of bias into account -- and there are many sources of bias, all with the potential to divert the results away from reality. Does anyone really know the quantified bias effects of the ever-worsening telephone non-response? Worse, the most insidious of these biases cannot necessarily be seen by studying the data alone because they have resulted from the sampling process itself. If the actual probability of selection is correlated with the targeted variable, then selection bias is almost certain to occur. Then in turn, and even worse, this means that sample results can be manipulated by manipulating the selection process, even with a "margin of error" of three percent. I suspect that none of this is news to partisan political pollsters. And these political polls carry the same margin of error statement as every other poll. A technical quibble. The formula used most often in calculating these "margins of error" requires the assumption of an independent sequence of events, which simply does not exist in structured socioeconomic studies. Furthermore, it can be shown that the misuse of this formula usually results in a "margin of error" that is too small. As a profession, we need to better inform the public about the accuracy of the surveys we present to them -- variance (i.e. margin of error) is not today's problem, bias is. In the longer term, we need to shift our research efforts on effective survey designs from minimizing variance to minimizing bias. Given the seriously unhappy public of the fall of 2000, such a focus should serve us well.

W. H. Williams
Executive Director, Hunter College Big Apple Poll
Professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics
Hunter College, City University of New York
695 Park Avenue, New York, NY 10021-2127-772-465/5300

W. H. Williams
I find myself, for the most part in agreement with the comments by Bill and Allen. There are, however, places where I differ with Bill.

First, the polls of 2000 were pretty good. In fact, a lot better than in recent years. You can check the evaluation of the final 2000 presidential polls on the NCPP web site: http://www.ncpp.org/poll_perform.htm

Second, the statement is correct, but misleading: "If the actual probability of selection is correlated with the targeted variable, then selection bias is almost certain to occur" The probability of selection is not correlated with the most important variables in most election studies.

Third, a computation of the actual sampling errors for key variables in election studies, as opposed to the short hand calculation used by many polls, yields about the same size sampling error. The margin of error (2 times the standard error) typically reported for most public polls is not an under statement for many variables.

warren mitofsky
At 04:35 PM 1/19/01 -0500, you wrote:
> To: Bill Williams:
> A problem you didn't mention is that most polls report an overall margin
> of error for the total sample size, and then go on to report breakdowns by
> subgroups like Black, White, Hispanic, Asian or women in single-parent
> families, without warning that the margins of error are much greater in
> the subgroups. The NY Times usually has a note that margins are larger in
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> positively misleading to the readers if they then report on subgroups.
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> looking at question bias or other bias, although I agree that these biases
> should also be noted in warnings. (Gallup sometimes used to vary wordings
> in random halves of the sample and report the differences -- see Hadley
> Cantril's 1944 classic, Gauging Public Opinion.
> Allen Barton
> ----- Original Message -----
> From: <mailto:wwilliam@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu>Bill Williams
> To: <mailto:aapornet@usc.edu>aapornet@usc.edu
> Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 2:29 PM
> Subject: Poll Accuracy?
> Polls, Accurate to Plus or Minus Three Percent? Hardly.
> Eric Burns writing for Fox News Watch, 1/4/01, about the electioneering
> methods of George Washington, ended his article by saying, "Remember the
> Polls of 2000? Could the methods of 1758 been any worse?"
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> remember that polling was about to take a direct hit in the media for
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Mitofsky International
1 East 53rd Street - 5th Floor
New York, NY 10022
212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com
http://www.MitofskyInternational.com

---
Subject: Poll Accuracy comments by Bill Williams and Allen Barton<br>
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warren mitofsky<br>
<br>
At 04:35 PM 1/19/01 -0500, you wrote:<br>
<br>
<blockquote type=3Dcite class=3Dcite cite><font size=3D2>To: Bill=20
 Williams:</font></blockquote><font size=3D2>A problem you didn't mention is that most polls report an
overall margin of error for the total sample size, and then go on to report=
breakdowns by subgroups like Black, White, Hispanic, Asian or women in=
single-parent families, without warning that the margins of error are much=\ngreater in the subgroups. The NY Times usually has a note that margins are=
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<font size=3D2>&nbsp;&nbsp;&nbsp; Allen Barton</font><br>

<dl><dd>----- Original Message -----=20
<dt>From:</dt><dd> &lt;a href=3D"mailto:wwilliam@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu"&gt;Bill=
 Williams&lt;/a&gt;=20
<dt>To:</dt><dd> &lt;a href=3D"mailto:aapornet@usc.edu"&gt;aapornet@usc.edu&lt;/a&gt;=20
<dt>Sent:</dt><dd> Friday, January 19, 2001 2:29 PM
<dt>Subject:</dt><dd> Poll Accuracy?<br>
</dd>

<dt>Polls, Accurate to Plus or Minus Three Percent? Hardly.</dt><dd><br>

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Mitofsky International
1 East 53rd Street - 5th Floor
New York, NY 10022
212 980-3031 Phone
212 980-3107 FAX
mitofsky@mindspring.com

From amccutch@unlserve.unl.edu Mon Jan 22 08:55:22 2001
Is anyone aware of research on whether exit polling depresses voter turn out? There is currently a bill sailing through the Nebraska legislature that is attempting to place a restriction on exit poll interviewers from standing within 1000 yards of a polling place (a "six-block halo"). It is an over-reaction to the Florida situation in the last election.

I am attempting to gather whatever research on this I can, in an effort to block passage of this bill (LB 125, for those who are interested).

Are there similar bills being introduced elsewhere? Are others confronting this issue?

Please respond to me directly--thanks.

Best,
Allan

*************************************************************************
Allan L. McCutcheon, PhD.................................................
Donald O. Clifton Professor of Survey Research...........................
Director, UNL-Gallup Research Center..........................402/458-2035 (tel)
University of Nebraska-Lincoln..........................................402/458-2038 (fax)
200 North 11th Street...................................................402/472-6071 (Sociology)
Lincoln, NE 68588-0241...........................................<amccutcheon1@unl.edu>

http://www.unl.edu/ALM/

*************************************************************************
Fran,

I have received replies to my position, but I am not sure whether or not the contact information was properly attached at the bottom of my email. Can you verify that for me from your copy?

Thanks,

Bob

Robert H. Lee
Director of Operations
Freeman, Sullivan & Co.
131 Steuart Street, Suite 500
San Francisco, CA 94105
415-777-0707 fax 415-777-2420
http://www.fsc-research.com

The information contained in this communication is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee(s). It is the property of Freeman, Sullivan & Co. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail or by e-mail to postmaster@fsc-research.com, and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including attachments.

We recently conducted a statewide telephone survey of 2,400 (approx.) youth 12-17 years of age in which 800 (approx.) respondents provided an open-ended response to our structured race question. Most of these respondents were Mexican Americans who responded either "Hispanic,"
"Mexican," "Latino," or "Latina." However, we also received a myriad of other responses (see below) which we would like to re-classify if possible. Most of these respondents are multi-racial or multi-ethnic.

Can anyone recommend a protocol for recoding these responses into a simpler schema that would cover the major race/ethnic categories? Perhaps we will need a multi-racial category given the diversity in our sample; however, this could complicate post-stratification weighting.

Our race question which appears below was followed by a standard, structured Hispanic status question. We have summarized below the open-ended responses we received.

Race Question: "Which of the following categories best describes your racial background? Are you White, Black, Asian, Pacific Islander or American Indian?"

Response Categories:

White
Black
Asian Pacific Islander
American Indian
Other (specify:)

Below is a summary of the open-ended responses that were captured in the Other (specify) category:

All of the above; everything; multi-ethnic; mixed
American
American Native
American Indian/White
American Indian/Black/Spanish/Irish
American Indian/Hispanic/White
Arabic
Asian/Black/Hispanic
Asian/White
Armenian
Basque
Bi-racial
Black/American Indian
Black/American Indian/Hispanic
Black/Mexican/White
Black/Native American/Philipino
Black/Asian
Black/Mexican/White
Black/White
Brazilian
Dutch Indonesian
Egyptian
Half and half
Half Mexican
Half White
Hispanic/Italian
Indian
Indian as in India
Indian/Hispanic
Latin
Latina
Latino
Mexican
Mexican/Indian/White
Mulatto
Pacific Islander/Black/Asian/Hispanic
Persian
Portuguese
Spanish Indian/Black from Hawaii
White/American Indian
White/Asian
White/Black
White/Mexican

===========================================
Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D.
Director
Center for Family and Community Health
School of Public Health
University of California, Berkeley
WWW: http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH
===========================================

>From broh@Princeton.EDU Mon Jan 22 11:22:51 2001
Received: from Princeton.EDU (postoffice.Princeton.EDU [128.112.129.120])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id LAA17603 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 11:22:49 -0800 (PST)
Received: from mailserver.Princeton.EDU (mailserver.Princeton.EDU [128.112.129.65])
    by Princeton.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id OAA18813
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:22:46 -0500 (EST)
Received: from princeton.edu (COFHE-6.MIT.EDU [18.178.0.79])
    by mailserver.Princeton.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id OAA26589
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:22:46 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <3A6C88A5.EBD215DC@princeton.edu>
Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:23:17 -0500
From: "C. Anthony Broh" <broh@Princeton.EDU>
Reply-To: broh@Princeton.EDU
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (WinNT; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
References: <5.0.1.4.2.20010122104041.00aa3bf0@uclink4.berkeley.edu>
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
    boundary="----------B2A9F00757DC5FAB0D9B149B"

----------B2A9F00757DC5FAB0D9B149B
Content-Type: text/plain; charset=us-ascii
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

In general, the new government guidelines for multi-racial and ethnic
responses can be conceptualized as (1) smaller racial classification trumps a larger racial classification and (2) Hispanic classification trumps everyhting. Mid East origin is white and South American origin is Hispanic. That will leave you with responses like "biracial" "American" "all of the above" "everything" and other information that is unusable for these purposes. You asked for a protocol. This is not one that is absolutely final (nor necessarily good) but it is an overview of the the 200 page regs issued Friday.

Tony Broh

Joel Moskowitz wrote:

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> Response Categories:
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> American Indian
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>
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>
> All of the above; everything; multi-ethnic; mixed
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> American Native
> American Indian/White
> American Indian/Black/Spanish/Irish
> American Indian/Hispanic/White
> Arabic
> Asian/Black/Hispanic
> Asian/White
> Armenian
> Basque
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American Indian/Black/Spanish/Irish
American Indian/Hispanic/White
Arabic
Asian/Black/Hispanic
Asian/White
Armenian
Basque
Bi-racial
Black/American Indian
Black/American Indian/Irish/Hispanic
Black/Mexican/White
Black/Native American/Filipino
Black/Asian
Black/Mexican/White
We are trying to locate any recent research (i.e., less than 5 years old) that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly' logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.,) postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a role in survey response or quality.

Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen

>From jmitchell@elementusa.com Mon Jan 22 11:46:59 2001
Received: from elementnt02.elementusa.com (elementnt02.elementusa.com [209.10.54.228])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id LAA14628 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 11:46:58 -0800 (PST)
Received: by ELEMENTNT02 with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
  id <DGRBQSQR>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:43:20 -0500
Message-ID: <714D7E686BC9D311BB2000508BBBFE5E80A9C5@ELEMENTNT02>
From: John Mitchell <jmitchell@elementusa.com>
To: "'aapornet@usc.edu'" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: envelopes
Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:43:19 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2650.21)
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"

there was a great article in POQ but it was more than five years ago. Mail Survey Response Rate: A Meta-Analysis of Selected Techniques for Inducing Response (Fox R.J. Crask M.R. Kim J.) 52:4:467-91 '88

-----Original Message-----
From: Michael Cohen [mailto:michael.cohen@bts.gov]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2001 2:38 PM
To: AAPORNET@usc.edu
Subject: envelopes

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that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly' logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.), postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a role in survey response or quality.

Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen

>From Tucker_C@bls.gov Mon Jan 22 12:17:26 2001
Received: from dgate.bls.gov (dgate.bls.gov [146.142.4.13])
  by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
  id MAA18752 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 12:17:25 -0800
(PST)
Received: from psbmailhub.psb.bls.gov (psbmailhub.psb.bls.gov [146.142.42.8])
  by dgate.bls.gov (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id OAA26176;
  Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:54:34 -0500 (EST)
Received: by psbmailhub.psb.bls.gov with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
  id <DKYJDBSP>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:54:35 -0500
Message-ID: <308A68716B76D2110008C74C12E3011AF7A60PSBM1L2>
From: Tucker_C <Tucker_C@bls.gov>
To: broh@Princeton.EDU, aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2001 14:54:31 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
  boundary="----=_NextPart_001_01C084AD.229172E0"

This message is in MIME format. Since your mail reader does not understand
this format, some or all of this message may not be legible.

------=_NextPart_001_01C084AD.229172E0
Content-Type: text/plain;
  charset="iso-8859-1"

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least cross-tabulated with race.

----- Original Message-----
From: C. Anthony Broh [mailto:broh@Princeton.EDU]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2001 2:23 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data

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responses can be conceptualized as (1) smaller racial classification trumps
a larger racial classification and (2) Hispanic classification trumps
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Tony Broh

Joel Moskowitz wrote:

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Basque
Bi-racial
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Black/American Indian/Irish/Hispanic
Black/Mexican/White
Black/Native American/Filipino
Black/Asian
Black/Mexican/White
Black/White
Brazilian
Dutch Indonesian
Egyptian
Half and half
Half Mexican
Half White
Hispanic/Irish
Indian
Indian as in India
Indian/Hispanic
Latin
Latina
Latino
Mexican
Mexican/Indian/White
Mulatto
Pacific Islander/Black/Asian/Hispanic
Persian
Portuguese
Spanish Indian/Black from Hawaii
White/American Indian
White/Asian
White/Black
White/Mexican

Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D.
Director
Center for Family and Community Health
School of Public Health
University of California, Berkeley
WWW: http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH
<http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH>
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Blockquote

------------------------------------------------------------------------
Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D.
Director Center for Family and Community Health School of Public Health University of California, Berkeley WWW: <A href="http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH">http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH</A>
------------------------------------------------------------------------
At 11:04 AM 1/22/01 -0800, Joel Moskowitz wrote:
>
>Can anyone recommend a protocol for recoding these responses into a simpler
>schema that would cover the major race/ethnic categories?
>
The following is the protocol I was asked to follow last spring "in order to stay within federal guidelines."

"For ... reporting data to federal agencies, the OMB guidelines call for aggregating the information by the five single race categories; four double race combinations projected to be chosen most frequently; other multiple race combinations that comprise more than one percent of the population in the relevant jurisdiction (as determined by the responsible agency); and a "balance" category for all other responses.

For civil rights monitoring and enforcement, federal agencies will allocate multiple race responses in several ways: combinations of one minority race and White are allocated to the minority race; combinations that include two or more minority races are allocated to the race that is cited as the basis for discrimination, in the case of an individual complaint of discrimination. In cases that require an assessment of disparate impact or discriminatory patterns ... the enforcement agency will review the patterns based on alternative allocations to each of the minority groups reported."

---

Jim Wolf          Jim-Wolf@att.net
>From broh@Princeton.EDU Mon Jan 22 12:54:44 2001
Received: from Princeton.EDU (postoffice.Princeton.EDU [128.112.129.120])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMT
   id MAA08444 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 12:54:43 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from mailserver.Princeton.EDU (mailserver.Princeton.EDU
   [128.112.129.65])
   by Princeton.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMT id PAA18152
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 15:54:41 -0500 (EST)
Received: from princeton.edu (COFHE-6.MIT.EDU [18.178.0.79])
   by mailserver.Princeton.EDU (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMT id PAA19708
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 22 Jan 2001 15:54:40 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <3A6C9E30.F532AFEF7@princeton.edu>
Date: Mon, 22 Jan 2001 15:55:12 -0500
From: "C. Anthony Broh" <broh@Princeton.EDU>
Reply-To: broh@Princeton.EDU
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.7 [en] (WinNT; U)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
References: <308A68716B76D211A7910008C74C12E3011AF7A60PSBMALI2>
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
I defer to Clyde. The note I sent is my best guess about what many institutions of higher education will do to comply with a far more complicated set of regulations than I presented in my message.

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<br>Black/Asian
<br>Black/Mexican/White
<br>Black/White
<br>Brazilian
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<br>Half Mexican
<br>Half White
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<br>Pacific Islander/Black/Asian/Hispanic
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<br>Joel M. Moskowitz, Ph.D.
<br>Director
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<br>WWW: &lt;a href="http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH">http://socrates.berkeley.edu/~sph/CFCH</a>
Joel,

I expect that as more people provide multiple answers to questions asking them their "race or races," we will need to stop operationalizing race as one variable and start creating several dichotomous variables for Black (or not), White (or not), etc. Also we'll need other dichotomous "interaction" variables such as Black and White (or not), etc.

To date, my own experience from my university days with general pop surveys, very few respondents (> 2%) give multiple answers when they are posed an open-end item that ask what their "race or races" are. Thus, in most surveys nowadays, this need to operationalize "race" as more than one variable has no statistical imperative. But as the time progresses, more people will give multiple answers and I expect to be using the multiple variable approach in those coming years.

PJL

-----Original Message-----
From: Joel Moskowitz [mailto:jmm@uclink4.berkeley.edu]
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2001 2:05 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
We recently conducted a statewide telephone survey of 2,400 (approx.) youth 12-17 years of age in which 800 (approx.) respondents provided an open-ended response to our structured race question. Most of these respondents were Mexican Americans who responded either "Hispanic," "Mexican," "Latino," or "Latina." However, we also received a myriad of other responses (see below) which we would like to re-classify if possible. Most of these respondents are multi-racial or multi-ethnic.

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Brazilian
Dutch Indonesian
Egyptian
Half and half
A couple of years ago when I was at the Wisconsin Survey Research lab, we did an experiment on "envelope size effect." It was a survey to about 3000 graduates of the university who had gotten a teaching certificate. We sent one-third of the questionnaires in number 10 envelopes, one-third in 9x6 envelopes and one-third in 9x12 envelopes. There were multiple mailings and people got the same size mailing for each iteration. There was not difference in return rates. We never wrote up the study.
We are trying to locate any recent research (i.e., less than 5 years old) that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly' logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.,) postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a role in survey response or quality.

Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen

A good example of the problem with null findings... a very useful piece of information to know, but who would publish it!?

I had the same experience with a very large experiment in the use of white, green, and pink questionnaires. We did multiple studies with different kinds of populations, and found essentially no difference in response rates. Tried POQ, marketing journals, etc. Never got anyone to bite. "Null findings," they said.

A job candidate recently talked about how a good meta-analysis requires digging into the unpublished studies in order to be
able to estimate the impact of some type of treatment (he was reporting on therapies to reduce recidivism in juvenile offenders). If only the studies that show effects get published, we end up overestimating the impact of our programs (or big envelopes).

Thanks for sharing this with the list.

On Mon, 22 Jan 2001, Barbara Burrell wrote:

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> Barbara Burrell
> Interim Director
> Public Opinion Laboratory
> Northern Illinois University
> DeKalb, Illinois 60115
> 815-753-9657

> >>> michael.cohen@bts.gov 01/22/01 01:37PM >>>
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Scott Keeter
Dept. of Public and International Affairs
George Mason University MSN 3F4
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
Voice 703 993 1412
   Department fax 703 993 1399
   Personal fax 703 832 0209
E-mail skeeter@gmu.edu
I realize you have a problem at this point, but I would like to ask two questions:

1. Who did your telephone interviewing?

2. Who designed the survey instrument?

It seems to me that much of the problem could have been avoided if it had been anticipated that people would not always respond to the word "race" in the way that would yield answers codable back to your categories.

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Black/Native American/Filipino  
Black/Asian  
Black/Mexican/White  
Black/White  
Brazilian  
Dutch Indonesian  
Egyptian  
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Hispanic/Irish  
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Latin  
Latina  
Latino  
Mexican  
Mexican/Indian/White  
Mulatto  
Pacific Islander/Black/Asian/Hispanic  
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> anticipated that people would not always respond to the word "race" in the way
> that would yield answers codable back to your categories.

Well, I was trying to think of a more tactful way to say this, but...well, yeah.

Putting aside for a minute Tony Broh's comments about the new regulations issued Friday (by the way, do you have a URL for the document?) because the survey was apparently done under the old guidelines and should follow those rules....

We spend a fair amount of interviewer training on this very issue.

Interviewers should understand the difference between ethnicity
(based on language and culture) and race (based on physical characteristics.) Under the old guidelines, "Hispanic" was an ethnicity, not a race. There are white hispanics, and black hispanics and even some American Indian hispanics.

In my surveys, there are three responses that interviewers should NEVER enter as Other--specify responses for race. They include the following:

Hispanic
Indian
Carribean

Depending on your locality and culture you may have others that you have to train for.

If someone says their race is Hispanic, the interviewer responds, "Yes, we recorded that you are a Hispanic, from Mexico. But now we need to know your *race*. Are you...(read list)?"

Note that this is an argument in favor of asking about Hispanicness first--Joel's survey asked about race first, then type of Hispanic.

For Carribean, the probe would be something like, "Oh, that's so interesting that you're from down there...but what is your race? Are you...(read list)?"

For Indian, I'm not going to expect an interviewer to probe if the responses have been given in elegant tones that evoke images of Far Pavilions. But if the interviewer doesn't remember that the Indian subcontinent is classified as Asian, they better write, "from India" rather than "Indian" or the coders will have to flip a coin :( 

Obviously, I'm going to have to rethink all these procedures in light of the new guidelines.

Colleen

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109
UF Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-009
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

>From tmg1p@cms.mail.virginia.edu Tue Jan 23 07:18:42 2001
Received: from mail.virginia.edu (mail.Virginia.EDU [128.143.2.9])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
id HAA02225 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 07:18:41 -0800
(PST)
From: tmg1p@cms.mail.virginia.edu
Received: from tetra.mail.virginia.edu by mail.virginia.edu id aal1824;
23 Jan 2001 10:18 EST
I agree with all these comments: we also separate the race and hispanic origin questions, and have learned (through experience) that we should ask about Hispanic origin first.

It has been our practice, when confronted with mixed-race responses on the race question, to code these according to the first racial group mentioned by R. Simple but crude: This produces a unique race code for nearly all respondents, if that is your goal. The rationale is that R would mention the most salient group identification first--a supposition we have never actually researched. Under changing practice and new guidelines, I suppose that unique assignment will no longer be the goal and I will follow with interest what my colleagues are doing with this issue. I guess we'll soon be running the race question as a 'multiple response' frequency item under SPSS... . . 

Tom

On Tue, 23 Jan 2001 09:21:45 -0500 Colleen K Porter <cporter@hp.ufl.edu> wrote:

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- Hispanic
- Indian
- Carribean

Depending on your locality and culture you may have others that you have to train for.

If someone says their race is Hispanic, the interviewer responds, "Yes, we recorded that you are a Hispanic, from Mexico. But now we need to know your *race*. Are you...(read list)?"

Note that this is an argument in favor of asking about Hispanicness first--Joel's survey asked about race first, then type of Hispanic.

For Carribean, the probe would be something like, "Oh, that's so interesting that you're from down there...but what is your race? Are you...(read list)?"

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Obviously, I'm going to have to rethink all these procedures in light of the new guidelines.

Colleen

---

Colleen K. Porter
Project Coordinator
cporter@hp.ufl.edu
phone: 352/392-6919, Fax: 352/392-7109
UF Department of Health Services Administration
Location: 1600 SW SW Archer Road, Rm. G1-009
Mailing Address: P.O. Box 100195, Gainesville, FL 32610-0195

Thomas M. Guterbock
Voice: (804) 243-5223
NEW POSTAL ADDRESS: CSR Main Number: (804) 243-5222
Center for Survey Research FAX: (804) 243-5233
University of Virginia EXPRESS DELIVERY: 2205 Fontaine Ave
P. O. Box 400767 Suite 303
Charlottesville, VA 22904-4767 e-mail: TomG@virginia.edu
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Colleen K Porter wrote:

> On 22 Jan 2001, at 22:13, Jeanne Anderson Research wrote:
> > I realize you have a problem at this point, but I would like to ask two
> > questions:
> > >
> > > 1. Who did your telephone interviewing?
> > >
> > > 2. Who designed the survey instrument?
> > >
> > > It seems to me that much of the problem could have been avoided if it had been
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Ouch.

Alice Robbin
IU-BL

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> 
> Colleen K Porter wrote:

> From sullivan@fsc-research.com Tue Jan 23 08:57:02 2001
Received: from web2.tdl.com (root@web2.tdl.com [206.180.230.2])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id IAA03102 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 08:57:02 -0800
(PST)
Received: from 6b7va (fscnt1.fsc-research.com [206.180.228.75])
    by web2.tdl.com (8.9.1a/8.9.1) with ESMTP id IAA05329;
    Tue, 23 Jan 2001 08:56:38 -0800
From: "MJS" <sullivan@fsc-research.com>
To: Alice Robbin <arobbin@indiana.edu>
Date: Tue, 23 Jan 2001 08:59:13 -0800
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-type: text/plain; charset=US-ASCII
Content-transfer-encoding: 7BIT
Subject: Re: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
CC: aapornet@usc.edu
Message-ID: <3A6D47E1.3610.51556AF@localhost>
In-reply-to: <Pine.GSO.3.96.1010123105311.1807A-100000@ariel.ucs.indiana.edu>
References: <3A6DA142.76AFF2FB@princeton.edu>
X-mailer: Pegasus Mail for Win32 (v3.12c)
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7BIT

I have a paper copy and will provide it for the cost of copying and
postage to anyone who requests it.

Date sent:        Tue, 23 Jan 2001 10:56:46 -0500 (EST)
Send reply to:    Alice Robbin <arobbin@indiana.edu>
From:             Alice Robbin <arobbin@indiana.edu>
To:               "C. Anthony Broh" <broh@Princeton.EDU>
Copies to:        aapornet@usc.edu
Subject:          Re: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report
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> Colleen K Porter wrote:

The information contained in this communication is confidential and is intended only for the use of the addressee. It is the property of Freeman, Sullivan & Co. If you have received this communication in error, please notify us immediately by return e-mail or by e-mail to postmaster@fsc-research.com, and destroy this communication and all copies thereof, including attachments.
The 200 page document is there. The other should be available from the Federal Register.

>From Tucker_C@bls.gov Tue Jan 23 09:12:24 2001
Received: from dctype.bls.gov (dctype.bls.gov [146.142.4.13])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id JAA24608 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 09:12:23 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from psbmail1.psb.bls.gov (psbmail1.psb.bls.gov [146.142.42.18])
    by dctype.bls.gov (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id LAA12687;
    Tue, 23 Jan 2001 11:47:23 -0500 (EST)
Received: by PSBMAIL1 with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
    id <DQDCLVWX>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 11:47:21 -0500
Message-ID: <308A68716B76D211A7910008C74C12E3011AFE7E@PSBMAIL2>
From: Tucker_C <Tucker_C@bls.gov>
To: Alice Robbin <arobbin@indiana.edu>,
    "C. Anthony Broh"
Cc: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: RE: Classification of open-ended race/ethnic self-report data
Date: Tue, 23 Jan 2001 11:47:19 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"

Here is the message that will get you to the guidelines. Right now you
cannot get to the Federal Register notice announcing the new guidelines, but
it doesn't have the guidelines anyway. You can get to the guidelines by
clicking on the address below and scrolling until you get to data on race
and ethnicity. Hope this helps. If not, let me know.

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(See attached file: REGuidanceNotice.010501.wpd)
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> telephone (202/395-3093) or fax (202/395-7245).
> 
> Colleen K Porter wrote:
> From brendan.cooney@strategyone.net Tue Jan 23 09:40:37 2001
> Received: from nycxims1.edelman.com (nycxims1.edelman.com [63.96.56.110])
> by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
> id JAA05041 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 09:40:36 -0800
> (PST)
> Received: by nycxims1.edelman.com with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
> id <DPQF969N>; Tue, 23 Jan 2001 12:40:02 -0500
> Message-ID: <37A880465575D4118E1E1D00D0879D835E4BCA2DF0NYCXMB3>
> From: "Cooney, Brendan" <brendan.cooney@strategyone.net>
> To: "AAPORNET (E-mail)" <aapornet@usc.edu>
> Subject: Online Panel Studies
> Date: Tue, 23 Jan 2001 12:40:00 -0500
> MIME-Version: 1.0
> X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
> Content-Type: text/plain;
>    charset="iso-8859-1"

Fellow AAPORNETers:

I have been asked to put together a feasibility assessment for conducting an online panel survey to cover about 6 months, where panel members would view test stimuli (static and/or video) and respond to a survey online (website) once every two weeks, for a total of about 12 tests. The project would require a panel of approximately 1,000 participants.

I have very limited experience working with panel studies, so I wanted to
ask around for advice, tips, and experiences relating to panel study issues in general (attrition rates, panelist replacement, threats to internal & external validity, etc), and to online panels in particular (panel maintenance tasks and costs, etc.).

References, anecdotes and advice would be tremendously appreciated. If you have a specific service offer (i.e., you've done this sort of thing before and would like to offer your services), please respond to me directly; otherwise a NET-wide discussion of panel study issues might be generally informative.

-Brendan

Brendan Cooney
Account Supervisor, Senior Analyst
StrategyOne
Tel: 212.642.7774
Fax: 212.704.0230

But it is possible that the probability of responding to a survey is correlated with some affect (e.g., distrust of authority, apathy, civic withdrawal) that is also correlated with a key targeted variable, probability of voting??

Nancy Wiefek
Early Childhood Education Policy Director
Economic Opportunity Institute
2400 N. 45th St.
I find myself, for the most part in agreement with the comments by Bill and Allen. There are, however, places where I differ with Bill.

First, the polls of 2000 were pretty good. In fact, a lot better than in recent years. You can check the evaluation of the final 2000 presidential polls on the NCPP web site: http://www.ncpp.org/poll_perform.htm

Second, the statement is correct, but misleading: "If the actual probability of selection is correlated with the targeted variable, then selection bias is almost certain to occur" The probability of selection is not correlated with the most important variables in most election studies.

Third, a computation of the actual sampling errors for key variables in election studies, as opposed to the short hand calculation used by many polls, yields about the same size sampling error. The margin of error (2 times the standard error) typically reported for most public polls is not an understatement for many variables.

At 04:35 PM 1/19/01 -0500, you wrote:

To: Bill Williams:

A problem you didn't mention is that most polls report an overall margin of error for the total sample size, and then go on to report breakdowns by subgroups like Black, White, Hispanic, Asian or women in single-parent families, without warning that the margins of error are much greater in the subgroups. The NY Times usually has a note that margins are larger in subgroups, but that doesn't give a real idea of how large, and many press reports contain no such warning but only the total-sample margin, which is positively misleading to the readers if they then report on subgroups.

Something should be done about this, which is easier to deal with than looking at question bias or other bias, although I agree that these biases should also be noted in warnings. (Gallup sometimes used to vary wordings in random halves of the sample and report the differences -- see Hadley Cantril's 1944 classic, Gauging Public Opinion.

Allen Barton

----- Original Message -----
From: Bill Williams
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Sent: Friday, January 19, 2001 2:29 PM
Subject: Poll Accuracy?

Polls, Accurate to Plus or Minus Three Percent? Hardly.

Eric Burns writing for Fox News Watch, 1/4/01, about the
electioneering methods of George Washington, ended his article by saying,
"Remember the Polls of 2000? Could the methods of 1758 been any worse?"

Now that our venting about chads seems to be dying down, we need to
remember that polling was about to take a direct hit in the media for
perceived inaccuracy and large swings, which were then compounded by VNS'
problems. Chads did us the favor of diverting the media focus away from
polling.

Unfortunately, some of the public confusion is of our own making when
we, in an attempt to be helpful, issue a poll "margin of error." This
statement ensures that public really does believe that polls are accurate to
plus or minus (say) three percent. Regardless of any cryptic caveats that
may be attached to the statement, the statement is widely taken at face
value. Anyway, it seems hardly likely that many polls are accurate to plus
or minus three percent, and this the public certainly has noticed.

The problem is that the margin of error does not account for bias.
Confidence intervals, which are very useful and widely used do not take any
kind of bias into account -- and there are many sources of bias, all with
the potential to divert the results away from reality. Does anyone really
know the quantified bias effects of the ever-worsening telephone
non-response? Worse, the most insidious of these biases cannot necessarily
be seen by studying the data alone because they have resulted from the
sampling process itself. If the actual probability of selection is
correlated with the targeted variable, then selection bias is almost certain
to occur. Then in turn, and even worse, this means that sample results can
be manipulated by manipulating the selection process, even with a "margin of
error" of three percent. I suspect that none of this is news to partisan
political pollsters. And these political polls carry the same margin of
error statement as every other poll.

A technical quibble. The formula used most often in calculating these
"margins of error" requires the assumption of an independent sequence of
events, which simply does not exist in structured socioeconomic studies.
Furthermore, it can be shown that the misuse of this formula usually results
in a "margin of error" that is too small.

As a profession, we need to better inform the public about the
accuracy of the surveys we present to them -- variance (i.e. margin of
error) is not today's problem, bias is. In the longer term, we need to shift
our research efforts on effective survey designs from minimizing variance to
minimizing bias. Given the seriously unhappy public of the fall of 2000,
such a focus should serve us well.
But it is possible that the probability of responding to a survey is correlated with some affect (e.g., distrust of authority, apathy, civic withdrawal) that is also correlated with a key targeted variable, probability of voting?
Subject: Poll Accuracy comments by Bill Williams and Allen Barton

I find myself, for the most part in agreement with the comments by Bill and Allen. There are, however, places where I differ with Bill. First, the polls of 2000 were pretty good. In fact, a lot better than in recent years. You can check the evaluation of the final 2000 presidential polls on the NCPP web site: [http://www.ncpp.org/poll_perform.htm](http://www.ncpp.org/poll_perform.htm).

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I don't have the exact citation but in the 1999 ASA proceedings of the Section of Survey Research Methods (I have a copy of the paper from the author not the proceedings). There is an article "Using Monetary Incentives to Reduce Attrition in the Survey of Income and Program Participation" by Denise A. Abreu and Franklin Winters, U.S. Census Bureau. Joy is probably aware of it, since I think she was working on SIPP at the time. It was an incentive experiment in Wave 8 of previous nonrespondents. And to keep the control groups as similar as possible, the group with no incentive also received a priority mailing since the incentives were being sent by priority mail. There was a 5 percentage point increase in response rate for the non-incentive group using priority mail compared to the Wave 7 nonresponse follow-up which did not use priority mail. While not a true experiment design (and not part of the original hypothesis), it does suggest the impact of priority mail (especially in Wave 8 where the respondents now know what the usual Census mailing looks like).

> -----Original Message-----
> From: Michael Cohen [SMTP:michael.cohen@bts.gov]
> Sent: Monday, January 22, 2001 2:38 PM
> To: AAPORNET@usc.edu
> Subject: envelopes
>
> We are trying to locate any recent research (i.e., less than 5 years old) that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly' logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.), postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a role in survey response or quality.
>
> Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen
>From rgodfrey@facstaff.wisc.edu Tue Jan 23 11:37:21 2001
This may be old news. If so, excuse the repetition. Just received this via our department list.

Robert Godfrey

In case you missed the interesting webcast from the Univ. of Michigan Monday, it has been archived at the link below. As usual, you will want to get it via the biggest pipe you can find.

"Collecting and Interpreting Race and Ethnicity Data: Census 2000 and Beyond"
http://umtv-live.rs.itd.umich.edu/Nis/mlk.ram

Also, one of the speakers has his PowerPoint presentation up at http://people.mw.mediaone.net/drharris1/mlk_presentation_2001_files/frame.htm

He - David Harris - has an especially interesting definition of race, I think. You might want to print out his PPT slides before watching the webcast because they don't show up too well in that 2x2" window.

-Tom Johnson
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-Tom Johnson

******************************************************************

J. T. Johnson Dept. of Journalism
Boston University 617.353.5969 (o) 617.926.1313(h) 415.305.9305 (cell)

******************************************************************
Re: Null findings:
What ever happened to the "Journal of Negative Findings?"  It is needed to combat the bias toward reporting "significant" differences.

----- Original Message ----- 
From: "Scott Keeter" <skeeter@osf1.gmu.edu>
To: "Barbara Burrell" <TI0BCB1@wpo.cso.niu.edu>
Cc: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Sent: Monday, January 22, 2001 8:57 PM
Subject: Re: envelopes

> A good example of the problem with null findings... a very useful piece
> of information to know, but who would publish it!?
>
> I had the same experience with a very large experiment in the use of
> white, green, and pink questionnaires. We did multiple studies with
> different kinds of populations, and found essentially no difference in
> response rates. Tried POQ, marketing journals, etc. Never got anyone to
> bite. "Null findings," they said.
>
> A job candidate recently talked about how a good meta-analysis
> requires digging into the unpublished studies in order to be
> able to estimate the impact of some type of treatment (he was
> reporting on therapies to reduce recidivism in juvenile offenders). If
> only the studies that show effects get published, we end up
> overestimating the impact of our programs (or big envelopes).
>
> Thanks for sharing this with the list.
>
> On Mon, 22 Jan 2001, Barbara Burrell wrote:
>
> > A couple of years ago when I was at the Wisconsin Survey Research lab,
> > we did an experiment on "envelope size effect." It was a survey to
> > about 3000 graduates of the university who had gotten a teaching
> > certificate. We sent one-third of the questionnaires in number 10
> > envelopes, one-third in 9x6 envelopes and one-third in 9x12 envelopes.
> > There were multiple mailings and people got the same size mailing for
> > each iteration. There was not difference in return rates. We never
> > wrote up the study.
> >
> > Barbara Burrell
> >
> > Barbara Burrell
We are trying to locate any recent research (i.e., less than 5 years old) that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly' logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.), postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a role in survey response or quality.

Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen

---------------------------
Scott Keeter
Dept. of Public and International Affairs
George Mason University MSN 3F4
Fairfax, VA 22030-4444
Voice 703 993 1412
Department fax 703 993 1399
Personal fax 703 832 0209
E-mail skeeter@gmu.edu
Web site http://mason.gmu.edu/~skeeter

From jbason@arches.uga.edu Wed Jan 24 06:46:25 2001
Received: from mailgw.cc.uga.edu (mailgw.cc.uga.edu [128.192.1.101])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id GAA05785 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 24 Jan 2001 06:46:24 -0800
    (PST)
Received: from archa8.cc.uga.edu (arch8.cc.uga.edu) by mailgw.cc.uga.edu
    (LSMT for Windows NT v1.1b) with SMTP id <0.02BE7405@mailgw.cc.uga.edu>
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 24 Jan 2001 09:46:13 -0500
Message-ID: <001301c0864f$e5185790$123fc080@ibr.uga.edu>
From: "James Bason" <jbason@arches.uga.edu>
To: "Aapornet@UsC.Edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Opportunity for Grad Student
Date: Wed, 24 Jan 2001 09:52:06 -1200
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/mixed;
    boundary="----_NextPart_000_000F_01C085EB.4FB40320"
I am posting this for a colleague who is not an AAPOR member. It may be a good opportunity for a deserving student.

Jim.

James Bason, PhD
Director and Assistant Research Scientist
Survey Research Center
University of Georgia
jbason@arches.uga.edu
706-542-6110
706-542-4057 FAX
114 Barrow Hall
Athens, GA 30602
Here we go again!

It’s time for the annual AAPOR Conference T-Shirt Slogan Contest.

So get creative and send your best one-liner in by FEBRUARY 2nd.

IMPORTANT: Please send entries to aapor_tshirt@yahoo.com

(Those who just reply to this email and as a result post their entries on aapornet will be severely punished ;)

Voting will begin February 6th. The winner will receive a $25 gift certificate for the book exhibit at the conference in Montreal.
The top entries from last year include:

"When America Talks, We Listen"

"Is that your final answer?"

"Public opinion in this country is everything - Abe Lincoln"

"Don't call us, we'll call you"

and the winning entry for 2000 - "Your opinion counts only if we count your opinion"

Katherine "Kat" Lind
AAPOR Social Activities Coordinator
LIND@IOPA.SC.EDU

=====

Katherine "Kat" Lind
Kat_Lind99@yahoo.com

Opps! The technology/book exhibit is being revamped, so the prize for the slogan will be a suprise!
> The Journal of Promotion Management 5: (2000) has an article that
> summarizes the research on response rates and mail surveys. It's a review
> of 55 articles and probably goes back farther and includes more factors
> than you wish, but the analysis and the bibliography are there and may be
> helpful.
> 
> >>> michael.cohen@bts.gov 01/22/01 01:37PM >>>
> We are trying to locate any recent research (i.e., less than 5 years
> old) that has been conducted on the effects of the survey pre-notice
> letter ENVELOPE. Although the envelope design is most likely linked to
> the design of the pre-notice letter, the research of interest must
> include specific envelope characteristics. In particular, we are
> interested in the impact that the envelope might play in getting the
> respondent to first open the letter, and then any discernible impact it
> has on response rates and data quality. By envelope characteristics, we
> are referring to the design (e.g., official looking versus a 'friendly'
> logo design), method of sending (express mail, first class, etc.),
> postage stamps and marks, or any other characteristics that might play a
> role in survey response or quality.
> 
> Joy Sharp & Michael P. Cohen

--
JANET A. BRIDGES
Associate Professor and
BoRsf Professor of Communication
University of Louisiana at Lafayette
(formerly University of Southwestern Louisiana)
Colleagues,

I included a link to the Polling Report WWW page in my undergraduate course home page.

The link:  www.pollingreport.com now (11 PM EST) seems to go to an X-rated site.

I am writing:

a. to alert you if you currently include this link in your www materials

b. to inquire to see if anybody is aware of how this occurred -- I'm curious if firms like this seize abandoned links or if this is a prank of some kind

-- Eric

>From editor@PollingReport.com Thu Jan 25 22:01:20 2001
Received: from mail5.registeredsite.com (IDENT:root@mail5.registeredsite.com [64.224.9.14])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id WAA29090 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Thu, 25 Jan 2001 23:01:18 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: "Editor" <editor@PollingReport.com>
Subject: Polling Report www site
In-Reply-To: <200006290704.AAA11968@usc.edu>
Message-ID: <000a01c0875d$6c56a5a0$24413ad0@cable.rcn.com>
Reply-To: "Editor" <editor@PollingReport.com>
References: <4.2.0.58.20010125225629.00a70370@mail.psu.edu>
Pollingreport.com's brief career as a nude celebrity site is over. For an hour or two yesterday evening, people who went to our web address were redirected to a porno site. The company that maintains our web server was able to fix the problem by about 11:45 PM EST.

Sorry about that!

Tom Silver
editor@pollingreport.com

> Colleagues,
> > I included a link to the Polling Report WWW page in my undergraduate course home page.
> > The link: www.pollingreport.com now (11 PM EST) seems to go to an X-rated site.
> > I am writing:
> a. to alert you if you currently include this link in your www materials
> b. to inquire to see if anybody is aware of how this occurred -- I'm curious if firms like this seize abandoned links or if this is a prank of some kind
> -- Eric
>
>From igem100@iupui.edu Fri Jan 26 04:22:04 2001
Received: from hermes.iupui.edu (hermes.iupui.edu [134.68.220.31]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id EAA24192 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 26 Jan 2001 04:22:03 -0800 (PST)
Received: from iupui.edu ([134.68.45.22]) by hermes.iupui.edu (hermes.iupui.edu [134.68.32.3]) with ESMTP id HAA25745 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 26 Jan 2001 07:21:59 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <3A72159D.7341EB4B@iupui.edu>
Date: Fri, 26 Jan 2001 19:26:05 -0500
From: Brian Vargus <igem100@iupui.edu>
X-Mailer: Mozilla 4.6 [en] (Win98; I)
X-Accept-Language: en
MIME-Version: 1.0
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Re: Polling Report www site
<pollingreport.com/> is the correct address and it works fine for me and my classes.

Brian Vargus
Indiana University Public Opinion Laboratory

Eric Plutzer wrote:

> Colleagues,
>    
>    I included a link to the Polling Report WWW page in my undergraduate
>    course home page.
>    
>    The link:  www.pollingreport.com now (11 PM EST) seems to go to an X-rated
>    site.
>    
>    I am writing:
>    a. to alert you if you currently include this link in your www materials
>    b. to inquire to see if anybody is aware of how this occurred -- I'm
>    curious if firms like this seize abandoned links or if this is a prank of
>    some kind
>    
>    -- Eric

Eric:  It must be a prank or something with your system?  I have that site book-marked and accessed it fine Wednesday (through NetScape) and just now used the link you sent and accessed it fine (through Internet Explorer).
At 11:19 PM 1/25/01 -0500, you wrote:
> Colleagues,
>         I included a link to the Polling Report WWW page in my
> undergraduate course home page.
> The link: www.pollingreport.com now (11 PM EST) seems to go to an X-rated
> site.
> I am writing:
>         a. to alert you if you currently include this link in your www
> materials
>         b. to inquire to see if anybody is aware of how this occurred --
> I'm curious if firms like this seize abandoned links or if this is a
> prank of some kind
> -- Eric

Ronald E. Langley, Ph.D.                     Phone: (859) 257-4684
Director, Survey Research Center         FAX: (859) 323-1972
University of Kentucky                    Pager: 288-5771
302 Breckinridge Hall               langley@pop.uky.edu
Lexington, KY  40506-0056

http://www.rgs.uky.edu/src

After three replies denying that accessing www.pollingreport.com was
producing porn, I tried it myself and once again what Eric was talking about
came on-screen. So the problem -- and members of his undergraduate course
may of course not regard it with the same degree of distaste -- has by no
means been solved.

Phil Harding
paharding7@aol.com
SENIOR EXECUTIVE SERVICE
PROMOTIONAL AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER:  BTS-01-003KG

ORGANIZATION: Bureau of Transportation Statistics

POSITION TITLE:  Associate Director for Information Systems, ES-340
(SES Salary Range $115,811  -  $130,200)

POSITION LOCATION:  Washington, DC

ADVERTISEMENT AREA:  All Sources

OPENING DATE:  January 8, 2001

CLOSING DATE:  February 16, 2001

PRIVACY ACT REQUIREMENTS (P.L. 93-579)  Each form must be submitted in order for you
to be considered for the position being advertised.  Your social security number is
not required for this purpose and may be deleted from the forms submitted.  Your
servicing personnel office or the Office named in this announcement will be able to
provide information on specific Privacy Act requirements.

DOT IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER
ALL QUALIFIED CANDIDATES WILL BE CONSIDERED REGARDLESS OF POLITICAL
AFFILIATION,
RACE, COLOR, RELIGION, NATIONAL ORIGIN, SEX, MARITAL STATUS, SEXUAL
ORIENTATION, AGE,
OR HANDICAPPING CONDITION.  THIS AGENCY PROVIDES REASONABLE ACCOMMODATIONS TO
APPLICANTS WITH DISABILITIES.  IF YOU NEED A REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION FOR ANY
PART OF
THE APPLICATION AND HIRING PROCESS, PLEASE NOTIFY THE AGENCY.  THE DECISION ON
GRANTING REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION WILL BE ON A CASE-BY-CASE BASIS.

DUTIES:

The Associate Director for Information Systems participates with the Director and the Deputy Director in setting the agency's policies, defining its goals, developing its strategic plans, and managing its programs and personnel. The incumbent will provide direction and leadership to five major offices within the Bureau of Transportation Statistics: Information Technology, Transportation Analysis, Airline Information, Motor Carrier Information, and the National Transportation Library. Using knowledge management concepts, the incumbent is responsible for integrating all of the major transportation-related data bases and the main body of transportation research in the public domain to enable better decision making in both the public and private sectors. These data and research materials must be easy to access, easy to understand, and easy to use by both sophisticated statisticians and those interested in extracting a single number.

To achieve these aims, the incumbent will lead the development of two major, statutorily mandated systems: the Intermodal Transportation Data Base (ITDB) and National Transportation Library (NTL). Both of these systems include web-based access, and both incorporate and integrate massive amounts of information from outside the agency. The incumbent leads all efforts toward compiling timely and comparable data across all modes of transportation and internationally to help inform policy and planning at federal, state and local levels, and to provide useful information to the public and to transportation researchers. The incumbent will also lead the federal efforts in developing geospatial data for transportation and geographic information systems (GIS) to analyze and present those data.

The incumbent is responsible for managing all of BTS' information technology resources, and developing opportunities for using new technologies in data collection and analysis, to help achieve the agency's goals. The Associate Director for Information Systems leads and oversees the collection of financial and operating data for two major data programs: airline information and motor carrier information. Airline data are used to monitor competition in the airline industry; track and report on-time performance of the airlines; determine community eligibility for
subsidized airline service; forecast airport congestion; distribute funding for the Airport Improvement Program; assign FAA safety inspectors; allocate resources for aviation security; and protect consumer interests. Motor carrier data are used in assessing trucking safety and setting insurance rates, and monitoring the financial health of the industry; other uses remain to be fully developed.

The incumbent will also ensure that the agency manages information and knowledge assets to improve decision making by the department, state/local governments, Congress, the general public, and other federal agencies; and to improve transportation research which ultimately supports such decision making. The direction of information systems includes all actions to compile, evaluate, document, store, disseminate, and help people use transportation-related data. The incumbent is responsible for program planning, acquisition planning, management of all IT resources, and management of programs for security and data confidentiality.

Incumbent will advise the agency head to ensure that information management and IT solutions address the needs of the department's senior leadership, to advocate innovative uses of technology, to ensure the implementation of sound capital and investment planning, and to facilitate management's access to needed information resources.

QUALIFICATIONS:

Specialized Experience Required: Applicants must provide detailed evidence that their knowledge, skills, abilities, and other personal characteristics meet the managerial and technical requirements listed below and reflect the ability to perform the duties of the position.

A. MANAGERIAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Leading Change
The ability to develop and implement an organizational vision which integrates key national and program goals, priorities, values, and other factors. Inherent to it is the ability to balance change and continuity - to continually strive to improve customer service and program performance within the basic Government framework, to create a work environment that encourages creative thinking, and to maintain focus,
intensity, and persistence, even under adversity.

2. Leading People
The ability to design and implement strategies which maximize employee potential and foster high ethical standards in meeting the organization's vision, mission, and goals.

3. Results Driven
Stresses accountability and continuous improvement. It includes the ability to make timely and effective decisions and produce results through strategic planning and the implementation and evaluation of programs and policies.

4. Business Acumen
The ability to acquire and administer human, financial, material, and information resources in a manner which instills public trust and accomplishes the organization's mission, and to use new technology to enhance decision making.

5. Building Coalitions/Communications
The ability to explain, advocate and express facts and ideas in a convincing manner, and negotiate with individuals and groups internally and externally. It also involves the ability to develop an expansive professional network with other organizations, and to identify the internal and external politics that impact the work of the organization.

B. TECHNICAL REQUIREMENTS

1. Knowledge of emerging, state-of-the-art information processing and network communications technologies. (Mandatory)

2. Demonstrated knowledge of information technology management principles and ability to develop and implement a complex corporate-wide information management or information technology system. (Mandatory)

3. Demonstrated ability to identify information users; assess their needs; and develop new ways of integrating, documenting and presenting information to meet user needs. (Mandatory)

4. Experience that demonstrates an understanding of the data and statistical issues involving transportation topics and issues. This may include work with data programs involving safety, personal transportation, passenger and freight transportation, economics, environmental programs, demographics, and/or geographic information systems, among others. (Desirable)

C. EVALUATION OF APPLICANTS

1. Applicants will be evaluated on the basis that their knowledge, skills,
abilities, and other demonstrated personal characteristics meet the managerial and technical requirements.

2. Applications will be reviewed initially for basic eligibility. Those applications of candidates who are deemed qualified will be rated and ranked, and the best qualified will be forwarded to the selecting official for selection.

3. Applicants with career status in the SES or a certified OPM graduate of SES Candidate Development Programs (CDP) will be evaluated against the technical requirements only.

4. New SES career appointees will be required to serve a one year probationary period.

D. MANDATORY SUBMISSIONS

1. Submit three (3) copies of a current SF-171 (Application for Federal Employment), resume, or an OF-612 (Optional Application for Federal Employment). For further guidance, see attached, "Here's What Your Application Must Contain." Be brief and concise, but inclusive in the description of your work experience.

2. In triplicate, submit a Qualifications Brief, which is a statement indicating how your experience, education, training, awards, and/or self-development activities meet the Qualifications listed above. The Qualifications Brief must cover the five managerial requirements and the four technical requirements. Format the brief so that each requirement is individually addressed. It must provide sufficient information including examples of work assignments, projects, etc., to determine whether or not you are qualified for the position. (Note: If you have career status in the SES or are a CDP graduate, your brief should only address the technical requirements.)

E. WHERE TO SEND APPLICATIONS

1. Mail or hand-deliver the SF-171, resume, or OF-612 and Qualifications Brief to:

   Department of Transportation
   TASC Human Resource Services, SVC-190
   400 Seventh Street, SW, Room 2225
   Washington, DC 20590

2. Mailed and hand-delivered applications must be received in the TASC Human Resource Services office by 5:30 p.m. Eastern Time on the announcement closing
Applications received after the closing date will not be considered.

3. If you have any questions, please call Mary Pat Donelan at 202-366-9453.

NOTE: SELECTEE MUST FILE A FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE STATEMENT IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE ETHICS IN GOVERNMENT ACT OF 1978.

NOTE: DON'T USE A GOVERNMENT ENVELOPE TO MAIL US YOUR APPLICATION. WE WON'T ACCEPT IT.

Here's What Your Application Must Contain
(In addition to specific information requested in the job vacancy announcement)

Here's What Your Application Must Contain

JOB INFORMATION

* Announcement number and title of the position

PERSONAL INFORMATION

* Full name
* Mailing address (with Zip Code)
* Social Security Number
* Country of citizenship
* Reinstatement eligibility (Attach SF-50)
* Highest Federal civilian grade held

EDUCATION

* High School name, city, state, and date of diploma or GED
* College/University names, city, and state
* Major(s)
* Type and year of degree(s) received

WORK EXPERIENCE
(paid and unpaid)

* Job Title
* Duties and accomplishments
* Employer's name and address (indicate if we may contact your current supervisor)
* Supervisor's name and telephone number
* Starting and ending dates (month and year)
* Hours per week
* Salary

OTHER QUALIFICATIONS

* Job-related training courses (title and year)
* Job-related skills (e.g., foreign languages, computer software/hardware, etc.)
* Job-related certificates and licenses (current only)
* Job-related honors, awards, and special accomplishments (e.g., memberships in
professional or honor societies, leadership activities, public speaking, and
performance awards, publications) (give dates)

ANNOUNCEMENT NO: BTS-01-003KG

Michael P. Cohen
Bureau of Transportation Statistics
400 Seventh Street SW #3430
Washington DC 20590 USA
phone 202-366-9949 fax 202-366-3640

From PAHARDING7@aol.com Fri Jan 26 16:31:13 2001
Received: from imo-r19.mx.aol.com (imo-r19.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.73])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
   id QAA03559 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 26 Jan 2001 16:31:12 -0800
   (PST)
From: PAHARDING7@aol.com
Received: from PAHARDING7@aol.com
   by imo-r19.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v29.5.) id 5.7c.10c81077 (2178)
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Fri, 26 Jan 2001 19:30:20 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <7c.10c81077.27a37095@aol.com>
Date: Fri, 26 Jan 2001 19:30:13 EST
Subject: Re: Polling Report www site
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Mailer: AOL 5.0 for Windows sub 129

Returned home many hours after today's posting of reassurances to aapornet
that the problem first reported by Eric Plutzer had been solved. A trusting
soul, I decided to verify it for myself. I couldn't: insertion of
www.pollingreport.com -- regardless of search engine -- consistently brings
up the porn site: http://theperfectbabe.com/.

But I did notice the absence of "www" from Babe's address and wondered
whether, if that were similarly omitted from Polling Report's address, I'd be
able, for the first time, to access it. The answer was, in a word, yes: when
I accessed Polling Report via the Web, I got the porn site, and when I didn't

Smashing discovery! There's just one thing: why, out of the aapornet
members who've bothered to comment about this, am I (and maybe Eric Plutzer
who first brought this to our attention and hasn't written back to say
everything's swell), the only one who can't bring up Polling Report by
pasting-in www.pollingreport.com? Is there anyone able to tell me what dumb
thing I may have done or overlooked? Or should the company that maintains
Polling Report's web server -- and, according to Tom Silver,
editor@pollingreport.com, fixed the problem close to midnight -- be brought
back into the case?

Phil Harding
paharding7@aol.com

>From mkuechle@hunter.cuny.edu Fri Jan 26 16:41:24 2001
Received: from shiva.hunter.cuny.edu (shiva.hunter.cuny.edu [146.95.128.96])
At 07:30 PM 1/26/01 -0500, PAHARDING7@aol.com wrote:
> Returned home many hours after today's posting of reassurances to aapornet
> that the problem first reported by Eric Plutzer had been solved. A trusting
> soul, I decided to verify it for myself. I couldn't: insertion of
> www.pollingreport.com -- regardless of search engine -- consistently brings
> up the porn site: http://theperfectbabe.com/. ......

I was never so lucky to get the porn site though I tried every time a new
posting claimed it would show. :-)

The answer is simple: AOL users had a much better chance of getting the
porn site due to AOL's strategy of "caching", i.e., not to retrieve the
page from its true origin but one of its own caches closer by. So, for AOL
users, the hijacked web site lingered on long after it had been fixed.

Of course, a slight alteration in the URL -- like omitting the "www." part
-- fools the AOL cache, and the page is retrieved from the original site.
AOL membership has its privileges. M.

Manfred <http://maxweber.hunter.cuny.edu/socio/faculty/kuech.html>Kuechler,
Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)
I was never so lucky to get the porn site though I tried every time a new posting claimed it would show. :-)<br>

The answer is simple: AOL users had a much better chance of getting the porn site due to AOL's strategy of "caching", i.e., not to retrieve the page from its true origin but one of its own caches closer by. So, for AOL users, the hijacked web site lingered on long after it had been fixed.<br>

Of course, a slight alteration in the URL -- like omitting the part -- fools the AOL cache, and the page is retrieved from the original site. AOL membership has its privileges. M.<br>

Manfred Kuechler, Sociology Department at Hunter College (CUNY)<br>

---

Dear colleagues,<br>

One of my former students is planning an experiment regarding pre-notification letters. She is looking for QUANTITATIVE, EMPIRICAL, literature on the influence of pre-notification letters on the response. For instance the influence of content, lay-out, inclosure of extra information such as brochures etc. She already has literature on content analysis on advance letters (e.g., Luppes in JOS 1995, 11, 461-480)
Please send reactions directly to ROOS SCHELLINGS at RSES@cbs.nl

She will make a summary of the reactions and we will post them to the list for your information.

Thanking you in advance,

Edith de Leeuw & Roos Schellings

Edith de Leeuw, Plantage Doklaan 40, NL-1018 CN Amsterdam
tel/fax +31.20.6223438 e-mail edithl@xs4all.nl
---------------------------------------------
Sic Transit Gloria Mundi (transl.: On Monday Gloria Got Car-sick)
>From ShuttlCD@tvratings.com Mon Jan 29 10:30:43 2001
Received: from reliant.nielsenmedia.com ([63.114.249.15])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/us) with ESMTP
   id KAA18182 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 29 Jan 2001 10:30:42 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from nmrusdunsxg2.nielsenmedia.com (nmrusdunsxg2.nielsenmedia.com
   [10.9.11.121])
   by reliant.nielsenmedia.com (8.9.3/8.9.3) with ESMTP id NAA28755
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 29 Jan 2001 13:30:11 -0500 (EST)
Received: by nmrusdunsxg2.nielsenmedia.com with Internet Mail Service
   (5.5.2651.58)
   id <YH0D1WZL>; Mon, 29 Jan 2001 13:30:10 -0500
Message-ID:
   <DF2B720CF774D21189EE00805FA7FA2201D53B28@nmrusdunsx3.nielsenmedia.com>
From: "Shuttles, Chuck" <ShuttlCD@tvratings.com>
To: "'Aapornet (E-mail)'' <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: Request for Interviewer Training & Quality Monitoring
Date: Mon, 29 Jan 2001 13:30:09 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2651.58)
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"

Dear AAPORNET:

I am sending a request for copies of materials used in both the training and
quality monitoring of telephone interviewers. In the spirit of reciprocity,
we would be happy to share selected training and quality monitoring material
from our Call Centers in Tampa, FL, and Radcliff, KY, with contributors.

The Nielsen Media Research Call Centers employ approximately 2,000
interviewers to administer various telephone surveys and TV ratings panel
recruitment. We have well established Training and Quality Monitoring
Departments, but are always looking to improve our methodologies.

If you are willing, please send the material via e-mail to
"Chuck_Shuttles@tvratings.com" or via U.S. Mail to the following address:

   Attention: Chuck Shuttles
   Nielsen Media Research
   Methodological Research Department
   375 Patricia Avenue
If there is a charge associated with copying your printed material and postage, please contact me so we can determine how to cover these charges. If you have any questions please contact me directly. I look forward to the cordial exchange of information amongst scholars, professionals, and students in this field of public opinion research.

Respectfully,
Chuck Shuttles
Senior Research Analyst
727-773-4319 (Office)
727-773-4525 (Fax)

---

The February 2001 issue of Wired magazine contains a nice reference to Amnesty International's Fast Action Stops Torture network, page 80. They cite the URL as www.amnestyusa.org/fast. Their description is short, concise and comprehensive.

Dick Halpern

---


Dick Halpern

---
>From rshalpern@mindspring.com Mon Jan 29 19:24:27 2001
Received: from barry.mail.mindspring.net (barry.mail.mindspring.net
[207.69.200.25])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id TAA02015 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 29 Jan 2001 19:24:26 -0800
(PST)
Received: from w5y0s9.mindspring.com (user-381cno9.dialup.mindspring.com
[209.86.95.9])
    by barry.mail.mindspring.net (8.9.3/8.8.5) with ESMTP id WAA11353
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Mon, 29 Jan 2001 22:24:24 -0500 (EST)
Message-Id: <5.0.2.1.2.20010129222208.02272d90@pop3.norton.antivirus>
X-Sender: rshalpern/mail.mindspring.com@pop3.norton.antivirus
X-Mailer: QUALCOMM Windows Eudora Version 5.0.2
Date: Mon, 29 Jan 2001 22:23:16 -0500
To: aapornet@usc.edu
From: dick halpern <rshalpern@mindspring.com>
Subject: AI Fast Action network
Mime-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
    boundary="=====================_34251547==_.ALT"

--=====================_34251547==_.ALT
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="us-ascii"; format=flowed

Sorry! I pressed the wrong button and sent this message to AAPORNET instead
of AIUSA. Anyway, you are more than welcome to join the Amnesty network to
stop torture internationally.

Dick Halpern

> The February 2001 issue of Wired magazine contains a nice reference to
> Amnesty International's Fast Action Stops Torture network, page 80. They
cite the URL as www.amnestyusa.org/fast. Their description is short,
> concise and comprehensive.
> Dick Halpern

--=====================_34251547==_.ALT
Content-Type: text/html; charset="us-ascii"

<html>
Sorry! I pressed the wrong button and sent this message to AAPORNET
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<br>
Dick Halpern<br>

<br>
<br>
Okay I didn't hear from Chris or Monica- so it's up to one of you to finish this and turn it in on Wednesday. Attached are Sylvia's, Paola's and my reports. They're good and don't need to be edited. I don't know the order of the questions- but erase the numbers once there in order. Anyway, I'll talk to you guys tommorow. If the atachment doesn't work, let me know and I'll send it again.
Okay I didn't hear from Chris or Monica - so it's up to one of you to finish this and turn it in on Wednesday. Attached are Sylvia's, Paola's and my reports. They're good and don't need to be edited. I don't know the order of the questions - but erase the numbers once there in order. Anyway, I'll talk to you guys tomorrow. If the attachment doesn't work, let me know and I'll send it again.

akatiray@gmu.edu

---

Content-Type: application/msword; name="Eden Center.1.30.doc"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64
Content-Disposition: attachment; filename="Eden Center.1.30.doc"
Job Title:
Research Associate I (R03)
Job Number:
Job #01010-ANF
Center:
Executive Office Research-Assessing the New Federalism
Job Summary:
Responsibilities include the management and oversight of several tasks associated with producing and analyzing a large scale multi-year household survey. Will assist or take lead, depending on background, on all aspects of the survey including the questionnaire, sample design, interviewing procedures, all aspects of data preparation (for both internal and external use) including the development of weights and imputations, and data analysis. Will coordinate project work assignments and monitor work flow between programmers, survey management staff, subcontractors and researchers. 
Experience:
Experience working with survey data, survey design, methodologies, analyzing data for consistency and quality, data context/knowledge; writing SAS programs to perform basic statistics and create reports; working with large scale and/or complex datasets; and project coordination or management preferably in a policy research organization.
Status:
Regular; Full-time
Education:
PhD preferred, MA required in Economics, Public Policy or related social science discipline
Reports To:
Senior Research Fellow

To apply:

send cover letter, resume to:
The Urban Institute
HR Department, Job# 01010-ANF
2100 M Street, NW
Washington, DC 20037
Fax-202-887-5189
resumes@ui.urban.org

No phone calls please! Fax: (202) 887-5189 - Please limit transmissions to 6 pages!

We are able to accept resumes via e-mail at resumes@ui.urban.org. Send text only, no attachments please.

The Urban Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

Key words: survey, research

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Key words: survey, research
Federalism

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Experience:
Experience working with survey data, survey design, methodologies, analyzing data for consistency and quality, data context/knowledge; writing SAS programs to perform basic statistics and create reports; working with large scale and/or complex datasets; and project coordination or management preferably in a policy research organization.

Status:
Regular; Full-time

Education:
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Reports To:
Senior Research Fellow

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We are able to accept resumes via e-mail at resumes@ui.urban.org.
Send text only, no attachments please.
The Urban Institute is an Equal Opportunity Employer.

---

From jbeverly@gte.net Tue Jan 30 07:25:31 2001
Received: from smtppop3pub.verizon.net (smtppop3pub.gte.net [206.46.170.22])
   by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTF
   id HAA21361 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 30 Jan 2001 07:25:30 -0800
   (PST)
Received: from oemcomputer (2Cust89.tnt9.tco2.da.uu.net [63.15.224.217])
   by smtppop3pub.verizon.net with SMTP
   for <aapornet@usc.edu>; id JAA95019831
   Tue, 30 Jan 2001 09:20:23 -0600 (CST)
Message-ID: <003601c08ad2z2bd4b760$d9e00f3f@oemcomputer>
From: "Beverly Jensen" <jbeverly@gte.net>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: student's error
Date: Tue, 30 Jan 2001 10:34:43 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
   boundary="----_NextPart_000_0033_01C08AA8.422C1D20"
X-Priority: 3
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
X-Mailer: Microsoft Outlook Express 5.00.2615.200
X-MimeOLE: Produced By Microsoft MimeOLE V5.00.2615.200

This is a multi-part message in MIME format.

-----=_NextPart_000_0033_01C08AA8.422C1D20
Content-Type: text/plain;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

Please forgive the message sent from my account regarding a student's =
assignment at George Mason. All in error!--Bev Jensen

-----=_NextPart_000_0033_01C08AA8.422C1D20
Content-Type: text/html;
   charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: quoted-printable

<!DOCTYPE HTML PUBLIC "-//W3C//DTD HTML 4.0 Transitional//EN">
<html><head>
<meta content="text/html; charset=iso-8859-1" =
   http-equiv=3DContent-Type>
<meta content="text/MSHTML 5.00.2919.6307" name=3DGENERATOR>
Please forgive the message sent from my account regarding a student's assignment at George Mason. All in error!—Bev Jensen

---

From MAGI@aol.com Tue Jan 30 12:14:41 2001
Received: from imo-r01.mx.aol.com (imo-r01.mx.aol.com [152.163.225.1])
    by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP
    id MAA03687 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 30 Jan 2001 12:14:40 -0800
(PST)
From: MAGI@aol.com
Received: from MAGI@aol.com
    by imo-r01.mx.aol.com (mail_out_v29.5.) id 5.35.100e3bel (4398)
    for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Tue, 30 Jan 2001 15:13:57 -0500 (EST)
Message-ID: <35.100e3bel.27a87a85@aol.com>
Date: Tue, 30 Jan 2001 15:13:57 EST
Subject: Re: AI Fast Action network
To: aapornet@usc.edu
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: multipart/alternative;
    boundary="part1_35.100e3bel.27a87a85_boundary"
Content-Disposition: Inline
X-Mailer: 6.0 sub 10501

--part1_35.100e3bel.27a87a85_boundary
Content-Type: text/plain; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

Dick
You reached me by mistake. But it was my good luck. I've wondered how you were doing, especially during the election or should I say selection. It's been quite a while since we discussed how to get Gingrich out of the Congress. Now, it's Bush, Cheney, Ashcroft, et al.
I see you are still active -- Amnesty International. Good for you. Hope you are well.
Happy and Healthy New Year.
Mel Goldberg

--part1_35.100e3bel.27a87a85_boundary
Content-Type: text/html; charset="US-ASCII"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit

<HTML><FONT FACE=arial,helvetica><FONT SIZE=2>Dick
<BR>You reached me by mistake. &nbsp;But it was my good luck. &nbsp;I've wondered how you were doing, especially during the election or should I say selection. It's been quite a while since we discussed how to get Gingrich out of the Congress. Now, it's Bush, Cheney, Ashcroft, et al.
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you
<BR>are well.
<BR>Happy and Healthy New Year.
<BR><BR>Mel Goldberg</FONT></HTML>
The Consumer Confidence Index is produced by a company called The Conference Board.

You might want to check out the following web site to get the information you are looking for:
http://www.conference-board.org/

--Mark J. Lamias,
THINKologies, Inc.
3379 Peachtree Rd
Atlanta, Georgia 30326
(404) 364-0045

-----Original Message-----
From: Ulises Beltran [mailto:ulisesb@mail.internet.com.mx]
Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2001 5:49 PM
To: aapornet@usc.edu
Subject: Consumer Confidence Index

Hi,

Today the markets trembled by the publication of a "Consumer Confidence Index" published by a "private research group". Does anybody know how is this index calculated or where can we find out the details about this index?

We know the University of Michigan's Index of Consumer Sentiment, of Consumer Expectations and Current Economic Conditions, as well as Norc's similar index. Is this a different index?

Is the published index the most widely used or there are other good and prestigious indices to forecast economic or consumer behavior?

Please aswer to ulisesb@mail.internet.com.mx and I will post the relevant answers.

Ulises Beltran
BGA, S.C.
Mexico
Filedwork is done by NFO Research - consumer panel research.

http://www.nfor.com/nforesearch/conference.asp

Mark Lamias wrote:

> The Consumer Confidence Index is produced by a company called The Conference
> Board.
> >
> > You might want to check out the following web site to get the information you are looking for:
> > http://www.conference-board.org/
> >
> > --Mark J. Lamias,
> > THINKologies, Inc.
> > 3379 Peachtree Rd
> > Atlanta, Georgia  30326
> > (404) 364-0045
> >
> > -----Original Message-----
> > From: Ulises Beltran [mailto:ulisesb@mail.internet.com.mx]
> > Sent: Tuesday, January 30, 2001 5:49 PM
> > To: aapornet@usc.edu
> > Subject: Consumer Confidence Index
> >
> > Hi,
> >
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We know the University of Michigan's Index of Consumer Sentiment, of
Consumer Expectations and Current Economic Conditions, as well as
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Is the published index the most widely used or there are other good and
prestigious indices to forecast economic or consumer behavior?

Please aswer to ulisesb@mail.internet.com.mx and I will post the
relevant answers.

Ulises Beltran
BGA, S.C.
Mexico

---

Hi AAPOR;
In cleaning out the garage, I ran across some old Newsletters. I
have at hand the very first ones that were published and can find the other
perhaps.
The ones I have are from 1974: Vol 1, No 1, 2 (that is all there
are); Vol 2, Nos. 1,2; Vol 3, No 1; Vol 4, No 1.
Is any one interested in these? Do we have them in our files in
Michigan?. Actually they are sort of interesting. But then I would think
so since I was the editor of Vol 1 and 2. Alan Andreasan was the editor of
Vol 3 and 4. I suppose he too would find it interesting.

Hal Kassarjian
**********

Hal Kassarjian
HKassarj@ucla.edu
Phone: 1-818 784-5669
FAX: 1-818 784-3325
Hi AAPOR;

In cleaning out the garage, I ran across some old Newsletters. I have at hand the very first ones that were published and can find the other perhaps. The ones I have are from 1974: Vol 1, No 1, 2 (that is all there are); Vol 2; Nos. 1, 2; Vol 3, No 1; Vol 4, No 1. Is any one interested in these? Do we have them in our files in Michigan? Actually they are sort of interesting. But then I would think so since I was the editor of Vol 1 and 2. Alan Andreasan was the editor of Vol 3 and 4. I suppose he too would find it interesting.

Hal Kassarjian

--=====================_3637756==_.ALT--

---From RSantos@ui.urban.org Wed Jan 31 08:42:06 2001
Received: from uint3.urban.org (ui.urban.org [4.22.172.70]) by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with ESMTP id IAA08934 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 31 Jan 2001 08:42:06 -0800 (PST)
Received: by webmail.urban.org with Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19) id <CN7Q01L9>; Wed, 31 Jan 2001 11:37:45 -0500
Message-ID: <4CD371A22A53D411B60F00508B6F39B00158D5D8@UINT4>
From: "Santos, Robert" <RSantos@ui.urban.org>
To: "aapornet@usc.edu" <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: DC/AAPOR: Reminder - Feb. 9 Seminar + Brown Bag
Date: Wed, 31 Jan 2001 11:34:58 -0500
MIME-Version: 1.0
X-Mailer: Internet Mail Service (5.5.2653.19)
Content-Type: text/plain;
charset="iso-8859-1"

Note corrected RSVP due date (Feb. 7) and ...

******

BROWN BAG INVITATION FOR FEB. 9th!

Please come early and join us for a brown bag lunch on Feb. 9 from 12:00 pm to 12:30pm (prior to the seminar). This will be an opportunity to meet fellow chapter members, chat informally, and enjoy the company!

******

Topic: Evaluation of a New Methodology and Technology for Measuring
Respondent Compliance with a Survey Task

Date & Time: Friday, February 9, 2001, 12:30-2:00 p.m.

Speaker: Brian Harris-Kojetin, The Arbitron Company

NEW Location: The Urban Institute
              Conference Room 5A (Fifth Floor)
              2100 M Street, NW
              Washington, DC
              Entrance on 21st St. between L & M Streets

Report to Receptionist on the fifth floor for directions to conference room

Metro: DuPont Circle, Red Line
       Take the South Exit, proceed south on 19th St. for 2 blocks to M St.;
       Turn right onto M Street and proceed 2 blocks to 21st Street;
       Turn left onto 21st Street and proceed half a block to Entrance
       Entrance is on west side of 21st, between M & L Streets

RSVP: To be placed on the visitors list, send e-mail to
       audrey.kindlon@us.pwcglobal.com or dc-aapor.admin@erols.com
       or call Audrey Kindlon at 301-897-4413 by Wednesday, February 7, 2001.

Abstract:
Researchers distribute self-administered surveys to gather data about a wide variety of topics; however, they typically know little or nothing about how respondents completed their survey. For example, respondents who keep diary surveys may conscientiously record every relevant item when it occurs, or may do so shortly afterwards, or may rely on recall days later. Arbitron has traditionally measured people's use of radio through diary surveys, but has recently developed a new technology for passively and electronically measuring a person's exposure to electronic media. This technology is capable of placing an inaudible code in the audio stream of radio and television broadcasts that can be detected by a portable device the size of a pager. As long as respondents carry this portable meter, their exposure to the encoded media signals will be passively detected and recorded. The device also incorporates a motion detector providing a unique opportunity to measure how well respondents comply with the tasks they are asked to perform, in this case carrying the meter. Results of a large-scale field test conducted in the UK will be presented showing how well respondents complied with the tasks of carrying the device as well as how well the meter performed in measuring media usage. Implications of this methodology for measuring other phenomena and monitoring respondent compliance with data collection tasks will be discussed.

This program is co-sponsored by the
American Association for Public Opinion Research
Washington/Baltimore Chapter
and the WSS Data Collection Methods Section

>From CHASE.HARRISON@UCONN.EDU Wed Jan 31 09:53:35 2001
Received: from EXCHANGE1.uits.uconn.edu (exchange1.uits.uconn.edu [137.99.92.42])
Ulises--

Some of the other links give more detail on the data collection methodology. Here’s a bit of information on the index as I understand it.

The Consumer Confidence Index (CCI) is a scale based on five questions, which I’ve detailed below. There are two components of the CCI: Current Assessments (Based on Q1 and Q3) and Future Expectations (Based on Q2, Q4, and Q5). These are typically reported separately, and then in a combined overall CCI.

The basic scaling is done at an aggregate level, based on total positive and negative response. In other words, for Q1, which rates present business conditions as "Good," "Normal," or "Bad," "Good" is the positive response and "Bad" is the negative response. For each question, the CCI takes the ratio of positive responses to positive-negative responses. Then, this ratio is divided by a constant to standardize the results to a baseline of 100 as measured in 1985.

The current assessments measure is the average of this number for Q1 and Q3. The Future Expectations Measure is the average of this number for Q2, Q4, and Q5, and the overall CCI is the average of this number for all five questions.

The Conference Board seasonally adjusts the data.

Q1. How would you rate the present general business conditions in your area? Good, normal, or bad?

   Good
   Normal
   Bad

Q2. Six months from now, do you think they will be better, the same, or worse?

   Better
   Same
   Worse
Q3. What would you say about available jobs in your area right now? Plenty, not so many, or hard to get?

Plenty
Not so many
Hard to get

Q4. Six months from now, do you think there will be more jobs, the same, or fewer jobs?

More
Same
Fewer

Q5. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now? Higher, the same, or lower?

Higher
Same
Lower

=================================
Chase H. Harrison
chase@csra.uconn.edu
Department of Political Science and Center for Survey Research and Analysis
University of Connecticut U-32
341 Mansfield Rd. Room 404
Storrs, Connecticut 06268 USA
(860) 486-0653 (Office)
(860) 486-6655 (FAX)

>From mark@bisconti.com Wed Jan 31 10:06:05 2001
Received: from janus.hosting4u.net (janus.hosting4u.net [209.15.2.37])
by usc.edu (8.9.3.1/8.9.3/usc) with SMTP
id KAA28667 for <aapornet@usc.edu>; Wed, 31 Jan 2001 10:06:03 -0800
(PST)
Received: (qmail 9356 invoked from network); 31 Jan 2001 18:06:02 -0000
Received: from libra.hosting4u.net (HELO bisconti.com) (209.15.2.27)
by mail-gate.hosting4u.net with SMTP; 31 Jan 2001 18:06:02 -0000
Received: from mark ([138.88.44.103]) by bisconti.com ; Wed, 31 Jan 2001
12:05:57 -0600
From: "Mark David Richards" <mark@bisconti.com>
To: <aapornet@usc.edu>
Subject: RE: Consumer Confidence Index
Date: Wed, 31 Jan 2001 13:05:31 -0500
Message-ID: <JAEPJNNBGDEENLLCIIIBCEMCPAA.mark@bisconti.com>
MIME-Version: 1.0
Content-Type: text/plain;
    charset="iso-8859-1"
Content-Transfer-Encoding: 7bit
X-Priority: 3 (Normal)
X-MSMail-Priority: Normal
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   Same
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Not so many
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Q4. Six months from now, do you think there will be more jobs, the same, or fewer jobs?

More
Same
Fewer

Q5. How would you guess your total family income to be six months from now? Higher, the same, or lower?

Higher
Same
Lower

Thanks
Ulises--

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Here's a bit of information on the index as I understand it.

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   the same, or
   worse?
   Better
   Same
   Worse

Q3. What would you say about available jobs in your area
   right now?
   Plenty, not so many, or hard to get?
   Plenty
   Not so many
   Hard to get

Q4. Six months from now, do you think there will be more
   jobs, the same, or
   fewer jobs?
   More
   Same
   Fewer

Q5. How would you guess your total family income to be six
   months from now?
   Higher, the same, or lower?
   Higher
   Same
   Lower

=================================
Chase H. Harrison
chase@csra.uconn.edu
Department of Political Science and
Center for Survey Research and Analysis
University of Connecticut U-32
341 Mansfield Rd. Room 404
Storrs, Connecticut 06268 USA
(860) 486-0653 (Office)
I have a request from a student for information about polls of citizens in Argentina and Chile that ask about their views on how well democratic institutions -- eg. electoral systems, independent judiciary, freedom of speech and press -- are operating in those countries. Also, any citizens' opinions on the legitimacy of truth commissions and prosecutions of former government officials would be extremely helpful.

Can anyone point me to data sources? Please respond directly to p-miller@northwestern.edu.

Many thanks in advance for your help.