

Workshop on Modifying Surveys in Response to Disruptions

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Workshop Goals

- Review current methodologies used to develop estimates from surveys as a result of an unplanned disruption
- Discuss issues associated with collecting and estimating survey data where there was an unplanned disruption to the survey system

Workshop Goals

- Develop a research agenda that could be used by researchers to submit proposals for fundable research
- Best example: Katrina, Asian Soybean

Workshop Mechanics

- Sponsored by ASA (2006 Strategic Initiative), ASA SRMS, ASA GSS, and NISS
- Funding to support travel costs for academic attendees
- Held at BLS March 15-16
- Approximately 45 attendees

Workshop Mechanics

- 12 Agency presentations over 4 sessions
- Each session followed by discussion of approximately 45 minutes
- Second day devoted to discussion and development of the research agenda

Topics Presented

- Disruptions during Surveys of Energy Consumers
- The Loss of Sample Households in Disaster Areas
- Canadian Labor Force Survey

Topics Presented

- The Katrina Index
- New Census Bureau Data Products to Meet Unanticipated Needs
- Adjustments to Payroll Survey Processing to Reflect Employment Impacts of Hurricane Katrina

Topics Presented

- Quick-Response: Changes to Existing Surveys to Address Significant Events
- Methodological issues with adding questions quickly to an ongoing health survey of children with special health care needs
- Changes to the Current Population Survey in response to Hurricane Katrina

Topics Presented

- Presenting Geo-coded Data on Maps
- Building and Maintaining Public Trust in a Suddenly Changing Environment
- Future of Public Health Emergency Data

Research Ideas

Measurement

- Develop a classification taxonomy for disruptions
- Develop statistical/cognitive methodology for flexible instruments
- Handling questions in a survey that become ambiguous

Design

- Incorporating alternative frames—multiple frames
 - Sampling people where they are at a moment in time rather than using a linking rule such as address
- Sample supplementation
- Adaptive sampling

Estimation

- Bias versus variance
- Imputation--unreachable respondents
- Modeling
- Outlier/edits
- Benchmarking—random/imperfect model-based controls
- Sensitivity Analysis
- Combining randomized surveys and purposive estimates

Documentation

- Agenda
- Slides from the 12 presentations
- Meeting notes
- Research Agenda (in progress)

Research Agenda

- Posted at ASA SRMS, ASA GSS web page
- Posted at NISS
- Posted on agency web sites
- AMSTAT article
- SRMS, GSS Newsletter articles