

National Corrections Reporting Program, 1985: (United States) (ICPSR 8918)

National Jail Census, 1988 (ICPSR 9256)

National Medical Expenditure Survey, 1987: Institutional Population Component (ICPSR 9280)

National Survey of Hispanic Elderly People, 1988 (ICPSR 9289)

New York Times Democratic Convention Delegate Survey, 1988 (ICPSR 9217); *New York Times* Republican Convention Delegate Survey, 1988 (ICPSR 9218)

Offender Based Transaction Statistics (OBTS), 1987: Alaska, California, Delaware, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, and Vermont (ICPSR 9287)

Polity II: Political Structures and Regime Change, 1800 - 1986 (ICPSR 9263)

Practice Patterns of Young Physicians, 1987: (United States) (ICPSR 9277)

RUSCORP: A Database of Corporations in the Russian Empire, 1700-1914 (ICPSR 9142)

Southeast Asian Refugee Self-Sufficiency Study, 1982 (ICPSR 8454)

State Court Statistics, 1987: (United States) (ICPSR 9266)

Validation of the Rand Selective Incapacitation Survey and the Iowa Risk Assessment Scale in Colorado, 1982 and 1986 (ICPSR 9292)

World Tables of Economic and Social Indicators, 1950-1987 (ICPSR 9300)

World Values Survey, 1981-1983 (ICPSR 9309)

American National Election Study, 1988: Pre- and Post-Election Survey (ICPSR 9196)

Behavioural Correlates of War, 1816-1975 (ICPSR 8606)

Health Interview Survey, 1983 (ICPSR 8603)

Panel Study of Income Dynamics, 1968-1987 (ICPSR 7439)

Prosecution of Felony Arrests, 1986: Indianapolis, Los Angeles, New Orleans, Portland, St. Louis, and Washington, DC (ICPSR 9094)

Recidivism Among Released Prisoners, 1983: (United States) (ICPSR 8875)

Uniform Crime Reporting Program Data: (United States) (ICPSR 9028)

Content Codings of Level of Political Conceptualisation, 1956-1988 (United States) (ICPSR 8151)

Panel Study of Income Dynamics, 1968-1987 (ICPSR 7439)

State Legislative Election Returns in the United States, 1968-1986 (ICPSR 8907)

Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) 1985 Panel (ICPSR 9176)

World Debt Tables, 1970-1987 (ICPSR 8313)

ACSPRI newsletter

Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated
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incorporating

SSDA news

Social Science Data Archives Australian National University

ACSPRI newsletter

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This issue of the newsletter was edited by Frances Byers. Thanks go to Alison Morehead, Geoff Parkinson, Tony Kryger, Bruce Bradbury, Russell Lansbury and Bill Faulkner for the articles and information they provided.

Contacting ACSPRI and the SSDA

You can contact us at:

Social Science Data Archives
Research School of Social Sciences
The Australian National University
GPO Box 4 CANBERRA ACT 2601
phone (06) 249 4400

...or by E-mail

Contributions to the newsletter and general ACSPRI and SSDA queries can be addressed to Roger Jones on rgj310@COOMBS.ANU.OZ. Requests for information on SSDA data holdings and data orders should go to Frances Byers on fpb310@COOMBS.ANU.OZ.

ACSPRI Membership

Changes to ACSPRI membership since the last Newsletter are as follows:

James Cook University of North Queensland has rejoined ACSPRI. The ACSPRI Representative is Professor Peterson, Accounting, Department of Commerce.

The Bureau of Immigration Research/DILGEA has joined ACSPRI. The ACSPRI Representative is Andrew Struick, Deputy Director, BIR, PO Box 25, Belconnen ACT 2616.

The University of Wollongong will be rejoining ACSPRI on 1 July 1990. The ACSPRI Representative will be Dr Ken Russell, Department of Mathematics.

SUMMER PROGRAM NOTES

ACSPRI SUMMER PROGRAM, 1990

The ACSPRI Summer Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology was held at the Australian National University from 4th to 16th February 1990.

Numbers were up on previous years. A total of 166 participants took 213 courses. Compare this to 1988 where 70 participants took 85 courses, and 1989 where 132 participants attended 173 courses. However, much of this increase is due to a number of special factors that can not be

expected to happen in ACSPRI 1991 in Melbourne.

Government Enrolments

First, in 1990 there was a large increase in participants from non-academic organisations. One hundred of the 166 participants came from the government sector. This is the first time government sector enrolments have exceeded tertiary enrolments in the 6 years of the Summer program.

Most of the government enrolments can be characterised by 2 things: they came from Commonwealth government departments, and the participants lived in Canberra. This enrolment pattern is similar to that of 1987 when the Summer program was also held at ANU. However, it is very different from 1989 when most of the Government participants were from State agencies and instrumentalities.

An additional feature is that three-quarters of all government participants came from ACSPRI member institutions. The ABS, DEET and the Australian Institute of Health each sent about 20 people. There is an obvious use of ACSPRI membership as access to high quality and, comparatively *inexpensive* training.

One notable cause of high enrolments was the pilots dispute. Many departments had excess travel and conference funds, which could be spent on training. This is unlikely to occur again.

Tertiary Enrolments

Enrolments from the tertiary sector were down from 1989. In 1989 there were 82 attending, and in 1990 only 61. However this is not as bad as it looks.

In a lot of ways 1989 was a boom year for the tertiary enrolments. Not only are there a lot of universities and colleges in the Sydney and regional areas, but people living in the ACT are accustomed and willing to travel to Sydney. Because of this, ACSPRI 1989 at UNSW was the one year when there were high enrolments from the host institution *and* another institution, the ANU. In 1990 the number of tertiary participants reverted to 60 - similar to pre-1989 levels.

The number of participating tertiary institutions decreased from 22 in 1989 to 16 in 1990. Whether or not this is a problem is hard to say. In the past year there have been a number of

amalgamations of tertiary institutions, making it difficult to compare numbers.

There were some ups and downs in the geographic reach of ACSPRI. People from the ACT and NSW made up two-thirds of the enrolments, as they did in 1989. Victorian enrolments were down to half those of 1989. Queensland and Western Australian tertiary enrolments increased while remaining very low. There were no tertiary enrolments from South Australia, Tasmania or the Northern Territory. Additionally, there were 3 course participants from New Zealand

A scheme for low course charges (\$50) for students from WA, Tasmania and SA was run in 1990. It had little impact, as those student places were allocated on a reserve basis, that is, if there was room in the course. The high number of enrolments meant that many courses were full from the start.

Private Sector Enrolments

Enrolments from private sector institutions were down from 1989. This is not really a problem, as Canberra is so much a government town. However, ways of reaching people from the private sector for ACSPRI 1991 in Melbourne need to be considered.

Courses

Eventually 12 of the 17 advertised courses were run, with course sizes ranging from 11 to 26 people.

Courses in the first week were: Introduction to Statistics; Principles of Qualitative Research; Survey Research Design; Data Graphics and Report Writing; Introduction to Multiple Regression; Factor Analysis, Measurement and Scaling; and Models for Analysing Change.

In the second week the courses were: Data Analysis in SPSSx; Data Analysis in SAS; Analysis of Qualitative Data; Regression Techniques; and Log-linear Models.

Data Graphics and Report Writing was offered for the first time, while Factor Analysis, Measurement and Scaling, and the SAS course were conducted by new lecturers.

The only courses that were criticised were the introductory computing courses. An evaluation revealed that the 30 second courses suffered because the computer could not keep up with the lecturer. In response to the evaluation, Dr.

Roger Jones stated that he was mystified by the complaints. 'I could not go any slower' he later added.

Planned courses which had to be cancelled owing to lack of numbers were: Data Analysis on the Macintosh, Cost Effective Project Design, Rank Image Analysis, LISREL and Sample Design and Estimation.

Course Attendance

Government participants were more likely to attend particular courses: Data Graphics and Report Writing; Survey Research Design and Data Analysis in SAS. Tertiary participants were more likely to attend courses teaching regression techniques and Data Analysis in SPSSx. Both the introductory and more advanced analysis courses were equally subscribed.

The SAS-SPSSx division between the government and academic sectors is to be expected. However, the division between the other courses is an issue that needs to be considered. The academic sector favours *analysis* courses, while the government sector is favouring courses that enable the *practice* of social research. Another way of looking at it is that each sector is under-developing a certain range of skills. It could be ACSPRI's role to promote its courses to encourage government departments to upgrade their analysis skills, and more academics to acquire training in social research as a specialised practice.

ACSPRI continues to develop a two week course attendance system. A number of first week courses are linked to more advanced courses in the second week. Of the 50 or so people who attended both weeks of ACSPRI three-quarters attended related courses. But a feature of government enrolments is that they are far more likely to attend courses that do not have pre-requisites. On the other hand, academic participants are far more likely to attend two weeks of courses.

In making decisions about the courses offered in the future, some consideration must be given to the different constraints faced by ACSPRI's two major groups of consumers. Individuals from tertiary institutions are able to fit into the summer school mode, while individuals from government bodies are less able to take time off work. Government training requirements are directed towards the acquisition of a specific set of skills, rather than generalised development.

This consideration has to be balanced against the analysis versus practice distinction noted above.

ACSPRI 1991...

ACSPRI 1991 will be held in Melbourne.

Melbourne has a high concentration of tertiary institutions. Together Monash, Latrobe, the University of Melbourne and the University of Technology Melbourne teach over 85 000 students. There is a substantial body of staff and graduate students involved in social research activities. ACSPRI should work to recruit high numbers of participants from all those universities. ACSPRI needs good intelligence from ACSPRI representatives about likely consumers of courses. Work should be done to increase the number of tertiary participants, so that enrolments reach the high levels seen at ACSPRI 1989.

The extensive use of ACSPRI by member government departments for training can not be expected next year. However, the availability of ACSPRI courses to staff at regional Commonwealth offices in Melbourne, Tasmania and Adelaide needs to be better advertised. This is particularly important for departments like the ABS, DEET and DCSH where many regional offices perform substantial research tasks. Likewise, ACSPRI needs to direct more information towards researchers working in the State government and private sectors.

ESSEX SUMMER SCHOOL IN SOCIAL SCIENCE DATA ANALYSIS

The 19th ECPR and 22nd Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis was held at the University of Essex from 14th July to 25th August, 1989. Sixteen courses were attended by 131 participants of 25 different nationalities. Four new courses ran: Exploratory Data Analysis; Complex Data Management; Advanced Time Series Analysis and Analysis of Cross-sectional Data, all of which were well attended and well received.

ICPSR 1990 SUMMER PROGRAM IN QUANTITATIVE METHODS July 2 - August 24

In June-August each year, the ICPSR conducts a Summer Program in Quantitative Methods of Social Research at the University of Michigan in the United States. The Program offers a comprehensive, integrated program of studies in

in research design, statistics, data analysis and social methodology. Emphasis is placed on studying methods of quantitative analysis within the broader context of substantive social science research, and virtually all instruction is coordinated with, and reinforced by, active participatory data analytic experiences.

Further details, including application forms, are available from ACSPRI. Travel assistance to the value of US\$800 is offered to participants from ACSPRI member institutions. Applications close on April 25 so please hurry!

For further details contact Dr. Roger Jones on (06) 249 4400.

CONFERENCES

AUSTRALIAN POPULATION ASSOCIATION (APA)

The Fifth National APA Conference will be held at Melbourne University between the 21st and 23rd November 1990. The theme of the Conference will be "Australia's Future Population: Implications for Business and Government".

The Conference is designed to provide an environment for discussion between population analysts and the policy makers and business planners who require information for their own work. There will be three panel sessions: Planning and Demographic Change; International Labour Market changes and their impact on Australia's population; and Australian values and population change.

Papers are invited in the areas of regional demographics; demographic change; the young; the aged and ageing; the baby-boomers in the middle; the labour market; housing; the International perspective; historical demography; the need for data.

Abstracts of papers are required by May 31. For further information contact Christine Kilmartin, on (03) 608 6890. If you wish to submit a paper please forward an abstract of not more than 150 words to:

Conference '90
Australian Population Association
300 Queen St
Melbourne AUSTRALIA 3000

5th WORLD CONFERENCE ON COMPUTERS IN EDUCATION

The conference will be held from 9-13 July in Sydney. Further details can be obtained from WCCE/90, PO Box 319, Darlinghurst, NSW 2010, Australia.

THIRD INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON THE TEACHING OF STATISTICS, ICOTS 3

ICOTS 3, the Third International Congress on the Teaching of Statistics, will take place at the University of Otago, Dunedin, New Zealand 19-24 August, 1990.

Special themes are the teaching of statistics in secondary schools; statistical developments at university and polytechnic level; use of computers in the teaching statistics; training of consultant statisticians for government and industry; and raising the general public's statistical awareness and numeracy.

For further information contact: The Secretary, ICOTS 3 Local Organizing Committee, PO Box 56, Dunedin, New Zealand.

NATIONAL IMMIGRATION OUTLOOK CONFERENCE (Bureau of Immigration Research)

The Bureau of Immigration Research will host a major national conference on the economic and social consequences of immigration to Australia. The Conference will be held at the World Congress Centre in Melbourne from 14-16 November, 1990.

One of the main focuses of the Conference will be the BIR's Immigration Outlook paper.

Day 1 will feature the presentation of the Immigration Outlook paper by Dr Nieuwenhuysen. Three economic papers will cover work on trade and capital flows, wages and inflation, migration and living standards. The afternoon sessions will present findings on immigration and population growth and the environment, and the impact of immigration on regional and urban infrastructure.

Day 2 will put the new migration regulations under the spotlight. The Office of Multicultural Affairs will run concurrent sessions covering the multicultural marketplace, the law and the media. Afternoon concurrent sessions will

include the implications of immigration for employment, labour market programmes and industry restructuring, and economic status, equal opportunity and skills development for migrants.

Day 3 will discuss the needs of the states with respect to immigration, and discuss the outline of a population policy for Australia.

Further information about the conference is available by writing to:

National Immigration Outlook Conference
GPO Box 1469N
Melbourne Victoria 3001
phone: (03) 6901180

STATISTICAL MODELLING OF AIDS AND OTHER EPIDEMICS

A workshop will be held at the University of NSW, Sydney from 30 June to 1 July. Further details can be obtained from Dr. John Hopper, University of Melbourne, Faculty of Medicine Epidemiology Unit, 151 Barry Street, Carlton, Vic. 3053. Telephone (03) 3446991; E-mail u5531300@ucsvc.dn.mu.oz

APSA 1990

The Australian Political Science Association Conference will be held at the University of Tasmania from Sunday 23 September to Wednesday 26 September.

Programme streams are:

- Australasian Politics
- World Politics
- Political thought
- Public Policy and Administration
- Women's Studies
- Socialist Politics
- Third World Politics
- Political Culture (incl. ethnic politics)

Special Sessions:

- The politics of Antarctica
- Green power and the political process in Tasmania
- The South Pacific and the International Order

Two travel awards covering economy class airfares and conference registration are available, one for Honours students, and the other for postgraduate students and tutors.

Further information about the conference is available from the organising committee at the University of Tasmania:

Hal Colebatch, Harry Gelber, Marcus Haward
phone (002) 202329

OVERSEAS NEWS

China plans for 4th Census in 1990

The State Council of China has announced that the fourth national census will start on 1 July 1990.

On 19 July 1989, a group was set up in Beijing to plan for conducting the census. The Census will provide information about the changing size of the population, its location, the social structure and quality of life since the third national census. One major use will be to examine progress towards the objective of population control for the year 2000, providing a basis for continued policy development in the areas of population, education, employment, industry, and other social and economic development.

Joint Centre for Survey Methods

The ESRC/SCPR Survey Methods Centre has recently changed its name to the **Joint Centre for Survey Methods**, reflecting a change in the basis on which it is run and financed.

The Survey Methods Centre was set up by Social and Community Planning Research in 1980, in association with City University as a Designated Research Centre funded by the ESRC. Its status as a Designated Research Centre came to an end in September 1989. From October 1989 funding is provided jointly by:

- Social and Community Planning Research
- London School of Economics
- Office of Population Censuses and Surveys
- British Market Research Bureau.

The function of the Centre is to carry out a programme of research on methodological aspects of social surveys and to provide consultancy and teaching on survey methods.

The Centre is currently undertaking a number of projects, in addition to running a seminar series and fulfilling a consultancy and advisory role on survey methods.

NEW INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS CENTRE

The Department of Industrial Relations at the University of Sydney has been designated a Key Centre in industrial relations by the Federal Government.

It is called **The Australian Centre for Industrial Relations Research and Teaching (ACIRRT)**. The Director of ACIRRT is Professor Russell Lansbury and Deputy Director, Dr Greg Patmore of the Department of Industrial Relations, University of Sydney. The Advisory Board of ACIRRT is comprised of representatives from business, government, trade unions and academic institutions, and chaired by Sir John Moore.

One of the most important areas of ACIRRT's activities will be research into workplace industrial relations. ACIRRT plans to undertake an extensive analysis of the results of the Australian Workplace Industrial Relations Survey (AWIRS), which is currently being conducted by the Federal Department of Industrial Relations. Key personnel have been directly involved in the AWIRS project. Professor Russell Lansbury is a member of the steering committee of AWIRS. Ron Callus, Research Director for the AWIRS project, will return to ACIRRT to take charge of the workplace industrial relations program. It is also planned that a significant part of the Workplace Research Program will involve a comparison of AWIRS with the British Workplace Industrial Relations Survey (WIRS3).

Other activities of ACIRRT include: a review of industrial relations, education and training in Australia; working paper and monograph series; conferences in Industrial Relations; and ACIRRT will be directly awarding research grants and calling for tenders for particular projects concerning industrial relations education and research in 1990.

To receive the ACIRRT Newsletter contact:

ACIRRT
Institute Building
University of Sydney NSW 2006
Phone Sue Edward (02) 692 3786

BUREAU OF IMMIGRATION RESEARCH

The Bureau of Immigration Research was established in May 1989 within the Department of Immigration. Local Government and Ethnic Affairs (DILGEA) as an independent professional research organisation. The Bureau's headquarters are in Melbourne, but an important part of its staff is in the Department's central base in Canberra, particularly the statistics centre.

The Bureau has a broad charter covering immigration and population issues, as well as economic, social, environmental and other topics. It analyses these issues in the context of Australia's short and long-term population trends and prospects. A Bureau activity is to undertake independent analysis of issues relevant to Australia's population and immigration policies. One way in which it does this is through immigration research consultancies. For more information on consultancies contact the Bureau.

Major projects on which the BIR is currently engaged include

- an overview of immigration research, highlighting the strengths and gaps in research already done;
- preparation for the 1990 *National Outlook Conference on Population and Immigration*
- studies of immigration and settlement programs. These include the initial employment experiences of economic migrants; emigration, particularly of settlers, from Australia; and a survey of sponsored immigrants, particularly their location and relocation behaviour;
- a review of the relationship between immigration and the capacity of Australia's environment to sustain a larger population;
- a series of studies with the general theme of immigration and the labour market;
- a survey of the economic status of migrants;
- analysis of the impact of immigration on local government and cities.

Dr John Nieuwenhuysen is the foundation director. Mr Andrew Struik, the Deputy Director, heads the Canberra Offices.

Melbourne Head Office
PO Box 659
Carlton South Victoria 3050
Telephone (03) 3421100

Canberra Office
PO Box 25
Belconnen ACT 2616
Telephone (06) 264 1750

COMMONWEALTH GOVERNMENT SOCIAL AND MARKETING RESEARCH CONSULTANTS

Register of Expertise

The Office of Government Information and Advertising (OGIA) of the Department of the Arts, Sport, the Environment, Tourism and Territories advises Commonwealth departments on the appointment of Consultants for a wide variety of assignments related to information and advertising campaigns. OGIA operates a register of expertise from which are drawn the names of consultants who are invited to submit proposals for these assignments. A new computerised system has been introduced. Consultants who have previously indicated their interests should reapply.

For enquiries concerning the register, contact Adrian Fethers on (06) 274 1846. Consultants interested in being included in the register of social and marketing research consultants are requested to complete an application form which can be obtained by writing to:

The Registrar
Office of Government Information and Advertising
GPO Box 2205
Canberra ACT 2601

THE AUSTRALIAN WORKPLACE INDUSTRIAL RELATIONS SURVEY (AWIRS)

The Australian Workplace Industrial Relations Survey (AWIRS) is a fully Federal government funded survey. AWIRS is managed within the Commonwealth Department of Industrial Relations, and the data collection phase has run from October 1989 to April 1990. The field work and data entry was contracted to AGB:McNair.

The Survey

Interviews were conducted at 2000 workplaces. The sample covers all states and most industry classifications. The population consists of workplaces with at least 20 employees. A supplementary phone survey of workplaces with less than 20 employees is currently being conducted at a further 300 workplaces.

There are four questionnaires.

The Employee Profile Questionnaire is completed prior to the face-to-face interviews. It collects precise employment figures, a breakdown of the workforce into the 8 ASCO major groups, labour turnover and absenteeism, the name of the largest award and its coverages, whether the workplace uses outworkers, agency or contractors and questions on earnings by occupations.

The General Management questionnaire is administered to the most senior manager at the workplace. It covers topics such as workplace performance, the major product or service produced, and organisational change.

The Employee Relations questionnaire is administered to the manager with most day to day responsibility for employee relations. This is a longer questionnaire, covering topics such as awards, payment systems, employment practices, communication, recruitment and training, union organisation and industrial action.

Where workplaces have union delegates, a Union Delegate Questionnaire is administered to the delegate from the union with most members at the workplace. A second Union Delegate Questionnaire is administered to a randomly selected union with at least 10 members.

Reasons for doing AWIRS

Policy makers are increasingly focussing on the workplace due to initiatives in microeconomic reform such as award restructuring and employee participation. These all require systematic information on workplace relations, structures and practices. Much of this information does not exist.

Previous Australian research has concentrated on industry specific case studies or surveys of specific aspects of industrial relations. A key feature of AWIRS is that the workplace is identified as a subject to be explored its own right.

AWIRS has two main objectives. First, to provide a descriptive 'map' of patterns of Australian workplace industrial relations. At present, it is not possible to generate an empirically informed typology of workplaces because of the lack of authoritative and comprehensive data.

The second and more ambitious objective is to examine what links there may be between workplace structures and practices and the equity and efficiency implications of work organisation.

Using AWIRS with other data collections

Some of the data in AWIRS will be useful for comparison with other Australian survey data. The ABS keeps data on employment trends within industries; industry level data on working days lost; average weekly earnings for specific occupational groups at industry level. AWIRS and ABS data will be matched.

Other national surveys such as the Social Structure of Australia Project and the National Social Science Survey have surveyed householders, and include questions on work and employment. This data can be compared by aggregating up to industry and occupational estimates.

It is intended to conduct AWIRS once every 5 years so that it will be possible to trace change in workplace industrial relations.

Use of AWIRS

The AWIRS data will be available for use by policy makers, researchers, teachers, employer associations, union groups and industrial relations practitioners. The results will become publicly available towards the end of 1990 and the data tapes will be released soon afterwards.

NEWS FROM THE AUSTRALIAN LONGITUDINAL SURVEY (ALS) PROGRAM

Two new specific purpose data sets

Currently 8 Australian Longitudinal Survey unit record data files are available to researchers through the SSDA. See SSDA Studies No. 377, 410, 420 and 491 for details of the ALS list sample and SSDA Studies No. 413, 421, 489 and 542 for the four waves of the youth area sample.

To facilitate access to some of the data, DEET has created two specific purpose unit record data sets.

One of these summarises each respondent's labour force history over the 4 year survey period, and the second describes the process of transition from school to (further education and) work.

Labour Force History Data Set

In the 'calendar' section of the ALS, details are recorded each year which show the start and finish date of each job and period of job search. These have been linked over the four year survey period to give a continuous record of each job, period of job search, period of unemployment, period out of the labour force, and period of employment. Each of these states can have up to 36 occurrences. Each occurrence is identified by the week it started, and the week it finished.

Other variables summarise the number of spells and total weeks in employment, unemployment and weeks out of the labour force. As well, there is a variable which identifies each job held in the survey period, so that by linking to the main data set, individual job detail can be accessed. This summary file greatly facilitates research using the ALS 'calendar' variables.

Transition from School

This file summarises the data collected on the process of transition from school. Summary variables created describe the transition path (whether into further full time study or work); whether or not the transition has been completed; transition duration (ie time between school/study and first full time job); date left school/study; duration of first full time job; occupation and industry of first full time job; first full time job identifier.

This file will be extremely useful for researchers interested in the transition process. Again, unit records can be linked back to the main data set to enable access to variables such as sex, age, school type, background characteristics, education achievement etc.

Australian Youth Survey

When the ALS began in 1985, the sample was aged 16-25 years. Now, four years later, it continues to provide valuable data about labour market entry and advancement, and post school education. However, its ageing means it is of little use in analysing current school retention, or school to work transition, both topics of substantial relevance today. To maintain up to date data on these and other youth issues, a new

youth cohort has been introduced to the program. Known for convenience as the Australian Youth Survey, this cohort has recently been interviewed for the first time. It comprises 7,000 people aged 15-19 (the 15 year olds are not interviewed until they turn 16), who provide similar data to that obtained in the ALS.

Data for this cohort will shortly be available from the SSDA.

ALS Bibliography

New and old users of data from the Australian Longitudinal Survey will soon have a new guide to assist them, in the form of a bibliography of the major research that has been undertaken using ALS data. The bibliography is divided into four sections. Section 1 contains listings of the major research of which DEET is aware. There are three forms of listing: alphabetical by author, alphabetical by title, and a listing by substantive area of research. Section 2 contains short summaries of this research. Section 3 provides an index of the subjects treated in the research; and finally, Section 4 describes the data collected in the Area sample of the ALS since its inception in 1985.

The bibliography has been produced to help in the dissemination of ALS results and will be updated annually as new research is undertaken. The bibliography will be available from the ALS section of the Department in late April. Interested users can find out more by contacting Vincent McBride on (06)276 9125.

Forthcoming publication based on ALS data

A major publication dealing with dynamics of the youth labour market is soon to be released by the Department of Employment, Education and Training. The publication is based on data from the ALS and examines the changing characteristics of a sample of young people over the period 1985 to 1988.

The publication is mainly in the form of statistical tables, with supporting graphs and text. The next section reports some of the major findings.

The effect of Unemployment

Nearly half of all respondents experienced *at least* one completed spell of unemployment over the 4 years of the survey period. Of these, 46 per cent experienced less than 3 months total unemployment. The average completed spell of

unemployment was 13.1 weeks. Two choices mark the end of a spell of unemployment: people either get jobs or leave the labour force. Individuals who got jobs were unemployed on average for 12.3 weeks, while individuals who left the labour force were unemployed on average for 15.3 weeks.

The median duration of unemployment in 1985 was 14 weeks. Although over half (59 per cent) of the unemployed in 1985 had found either full-time or part-time work by 1988, this early period of unemployment had long-term consequences for a large number of people. Individuals unemployed in 1985 represented a *third* of all unemployed persons in 1988. The longer the experience of unemployment in the first 12 months of the 4 year survey period, the greater the mean duration of unemployment in the last 12 months.

However some types of individuals who were unemployed for long periods in 1985 (over 14 weeks) were more likely than others to be in jobs in 1988. These individuals are more likely to be male; to have had a high level of psychological well being in 1985; to have a father in a "white collar" occupation; or to have lived with both parents at age 14. Individuals who were unemployed in 1985 but who were either born overseas or had at least one parent born overseas were also more likely to hold jobs in 1988 than other unemployed individuals.

Even when individuals find work after undergoing long periods of unemployment many continue to occupy disadvantaged labour force positions in 1988. These individuals were more likely to be in short-term jobs; to be in 'blue collar' jobs; not to have employment benefits such as paid recreation leave, paid sick leave, or employer based superannuation; and to be paid less.

Four groups of people were especially prone to unemployment. They were people aged 16 or 17 years in 1985; who were not living with either parent at age 14; who at age 14 had a father who was not employed; or who in 1985 had health problems which affected their ability to work.

Education effects

By 1988, 58 per cent of all 1985 school students had either reached, or were studying at a level, that equalled or exceeded their educational aspirations as expressed in 1985. Socio-demographic characteristics however had a major affect on educational achievement. 1985

school students with the highest rates of achievement by 1988 tended to be those who had a parent with a degree, had a father in a 'white collar' job or had a private school education.

Of persons who obtained their last educational qualification in 1985, university and college graduates were more likely than other graduates to have a job in 1988 which was 'white collar'. Moreover, university and college graduates experienced less unemployment in 1988 and were more highly paid. Another interesting factor influences the respondents propensity to be in full-time work. Full-time students who held a job in 1985 were more likely to be in full-time employment in 1988 than their counterparts in education who did not have a job in 1985.

Individuals in 1985 who left after completing Year 12 had full-time wages higher than leavers from any earlier grades. The gender difference in earnings is affected by education. Males who left school before Year 12 were earning considerably more in 1988 than females. In contrast, the earnings in 1988 of males and females who left school after Year 12 were about the same.

Occupational Change

For all full-time workers except those in the management/professional group in 1985, real incomes increased more for those who changed their occupational group between 1985 and 1988 than for those who stayed in the same occupational group.

Thirty-eight per cent of full-time employed persons were in a different occupational group in 1988 from that of 1985. Those who changed their occupational group tended to be male, to have no tertiary education, to have been employed in a manual, sales or processing occupation in 1985, to have not received any formal job training in their 1985 job and to have been dissatisfied with their 1985 job.

Further information on the ALS can be obtained by contacting:

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RESEARCHING AIDS, SEXUAL BEHAVIOUR and ATTITUDES

Search for a cure and prevention of the spread of the AIDS epidemic has resulted in considerable research in both the biomedical and social sciences in Australia and overseas. The use of social research to gather data on sexual behaviours and attitudes to sexual behaviour of various groups has been critical in developing information on the pattern and rate of spread of the infection, developing education programs and assessing changes in sexual behaviour.

This article gives a summary of social research in Australia, that has been funded by the Department of Community Services and Health, on AIDS and sexual behaviour, and summarizes some recent work on methodological issues arising from the collection of data on sexual behaviour.

Department of Community Services and Health

The Department of Community Services and Health has played a major role in undertaking research, commissioning research and running prevention campaigns. The Department collects information on both high risk groups and the general population: it has surveyed the habits and attitudes of married gay men in the heterosexual community; assessed the transmission risk in intravenous drug users and prostitutes; studied psycho-social factors influencing AIDS infection in gay and bisexual men; assessed social responses to AIDS; and run a national community drug attitude survey. In addition, research effort has been directed at measuring the effectiveness of AIDS education campaigns, including a large survey of risks, information and behaviour with regard to AIDS before the campaign, and measurement of the effectiveness of the 'Assault' Phase of the NACAIDS AIDS campaign.

The Department for Community Services and Health also administers the Commonwealth AIDS Research Grants (CARG) Program, set up in 1986 and modeled on the NHMRC granting system. CARG provides two sorts of grants. One funds two special units for AIDS research with five year guaranteed funding, the other provides Project Grants, which represent the main mechanism by which researchers can apply for funds to conduct research projects. Applications for 1990 closed on March 12.

Recommendations are first assessed by CARG and then forwarded to the Australian National Council on AIDS (ANCA) for further consideration before going to the Minister. In 1989 \$3.9 million was administered to 49 new AIDS research projects. Projects are awarded in the categories of Virology and Immunology, Clinical Research, Epidemiology, and Social and Behavioural research.

Social and behavioural research has covered a number of issues concerning all major areas of the response to AIDS.

The majority of social research has been in the area of knowledge and attitudes to AIDS, and the adoption of safe sex practices. Surveys of AIDS-related knowledge and behaviour have been undertaken for the community as a whole, as well as ethnic groups, aboriginals, health care workers, homeless youth, prisoners and prison staff, adolescents, intravenous drug users, and gay and bisexual men. Several large cohort studies have recently commenced: including a follow up study of intravenous drug users - their behaviours, HIV infection and sexually transmitted diseases; and a study of persons at risk of AIDS in a cohort of Sydney heterosexuals.

Additionally, studies of preventative behaviour have been conducted on factors relating to condom use among heterosexual adults; the negotiation of safe sex practices by heterosexual adults; practices of female prostitutes and their clients; situational contributors and rationalizations used to justify unsafe sex; and social-psychological determinants in the adoption of safe sex behaviour.

Work has also been carried out on the wider consequences of AIDS for the whole community. One study concerns ethical issues. Another study investigates the way AIDS has been communicated in the media and its affect of audience perception of AIDS. Other work has been conducted on the emotional needs of AIDS patients, their carers, and hospital staff. Policy work has also been undertaken to evaluate community based AIDS organisations, and provide a costing of the AIDS epidemic in Australia.

Australian Research

It would be impossible to undertake here a review of research on sexual attitudes and behaviours in Australia but a review of research

however was commissioned by the Department of Community Services and Health and has recently been completed.

As part of its bibliography series the Australian Institute of Family Studies has published **Sexual Attitudes and Behaviours: A review of the literature** compiled by Bruce Rollins. The bibliography includes a 60 page review essay. The early chapters cover patterns of sexual behaviour from Kinsey to the 1970's, more recent Australian studies of sexual behaviour from the period 1980-1988, and research on cohabitation. The next chapters cover the risk of HIV infection and the coming of the AIDS epidemic and its effect on the attitudes and behaviours of heterosexual adolescents, intravenous drug users and homosexuals using both Australian and American data. Final sections cover research methodologies, and provide a summary of high risk groups, and of advertising and education policies and programs.

The bibliography is available from the Australian Institute of Family Studies, 300 Queen Street, Melbourne 3000.

Methodological Issues in Researching Sexual Behaviour

The latest ESRC Seminar was **Issues in Researching Sexual Behaviour**, published in the Joint Centre for Survey Methods Newsletter, Volume 10 No. 1. The Newsletter is available from the Social Science Data Archives. Summaries of points in papers delivered will be covered here.

Monitoring attitudes and behaviour in response to AIDS Simon Orton and Susannah Quick

The paper discusses the questionnaire design used in the British Department of Health and Social Security monitors of attitudes and behaviour in relation to AIDS conducted since 1986. Two samples are taken: one of the population of the United Kingdom aged 13+, and another of gay bars and clubs.

The interview is structured so that the first and main part of the interview focuses on knowledge about and attitudes towards AIDS and related issues. Classificatory details are taken before the questions on sexual behaviour, rather than at the end of the interview (as is usual). The final ten minutes are concerned with sexual behaviour. Throughout the interview 'shuffle cards' are used, each with a

numbered statement. To reply, the respondent needs only to call out the appropriate number. A question on number of sexual partners selects whether or not the respondent is also to complete an additional questionnaire.

Respondents claiming two or more partners in the past year, are asked to fill in a self-completion booklet containing more detailed questions on sexual behaviour. It is handed over in an envelope, completed immediately and returned sealed in the envelope. Separate versions of the booklet are written for homosexual and heterosexual men and heterosexual women. Since 1987, the completion rate has averaged 91% and there is very low item non-response.

Initially, questions on sexual behaviour were asked only of those aged over 18. This was extended to include those aged 16 and 17. In 1988, a question was added about the age when sexual intercourse first occurred. This affected the age at which young people 'qualify' for the booklet on sexual behaviour.

The phrases used in the question to describe choice of sexual partners were tested. Initially the phrases "different partners of the opposite sex" and "partners of the same sex" were used but were found to result in considerable confusion. They were modified to read men or women as appropriate.

Technical terms and colloquial language are avoided, since they change the tone of the interview and are less clear in meaning to respondents. Street terms *are* used with the homosexual sample.

Asking about the last two sexual partners give a sense of change over time. There has been a gradual growth in the claimed use of condoms, first in the most recent partnership and then in the previous one. The time lag is important because if there were only increasing pressure to *claim* condom use, the rise would occur simultaneously in both partnerships.

Developing the methodology for a national survey of sexual attitudes and lifestyles Julia Field and Jane Wadsworth.

This feasibility study for the National Survey of Sexual Attitudes and Lifestyles, initially to have been carried out by 5 institutions with funding from the Department of Health, ESRC and the Health Education Authority, is now funded under Wellcome Foundation.

The first stage was a qualitative phase of around 40 depth interviews. It was found that people were willing to talk in great detail about their sexual behaviour and attitudes. The type of language to be used was discussed. The conclusion was that semi-formal language was appropriate: not too clinical but not using street terms. However, even words like 'penetration' and 'heterosexual' were widely misunderstood. It was concluded that everything asked in the structured questionnaire had to be defined.

The questionnaire consisted of two interview sections with a self-completion booklet given between them. The interview started with neutral topics (eg. health) and moved gradually through to sexual orientation. The self-completion booklet contained the more intimate questions on sexual intercourse and partners. The interview was completed by asking about sexual attitudes and recording personal details.

Wording experiments were carried out on the questions on sexual orientation. Sexual orientation was assessed from two interview questions on sexual attraction and contact. In one version, these questions were ordered starting with homosexual attraction. In the other, the order was reversed. Respondents were randomly asked one version. Responses to the questions on attraction and contact, and on undefined sexual experiences, were consistent for each version. But, in the version starting with homosexual attraction, significantly more respondents reported being homosexually oriented. This could have been due to the phrase 'same sex' being misinterpreted as 'same sexual preference'. Responses to this version also corresponded more closely to self-completed responses.

The results show that estimates of the prevalence of homosexual behaviour differ depending on what was asked. The inconsistencies between responses reflected differences in definition, context and understanding. Hence, as well as the effect of different wording, there were discrepancies in the reported prevalence of homosexual attraction and contact, and in the number of partners reported.

Using Personal interviews with diary keeping to provide improved measures of sexual behaviour Peter Davies

The SIGMA project - the Socio-sexual Investigations of Gay Men and AIDS, South

Bank Polytechnic, - started in 1986 and has been under development since 1983.

Respondents described their sexual experiences, expressing themselves in the language they felt most comfortable with. Detailed street terms are used in describing sexual practices. Of the 942 men interviewed only 6 did not want to use street terms, indicating that many of the problems concerning sexual language were more the researchers' than the interviewees'. A coding scheme of sexual acts, roles taken by different participants, time and place, partners involved, orgasm and ejaculation and sexual aids was devised using the first letter of the corresponding street term as code.

Respondent's were asked the question "What is a sexual partner?". This prompted a wide response. It was necessary to set a definition of partner, which was "a person with whom you have physical contact where the aim was orgasm for one or both of you", signifying intention rather than actuality, and excluding penetration from the definition.

A number of men were asked to keep diaries of sexual incidence. The study now has around 400 diaries, from 1985 onwards. The diaries have been used to examine contexts in which unsafe sex takes place and the findings are being formulated for use in health education campaigns.

The stability and consistency of sensitive information obtained from face to face and computer assisted interviews David McQueen

This study makes a comparison of data on risky and socially stigmatized behaviours collected by face to face and computer assisted telephone interviewing (CATI) techniques. Two waves of surveys are currently carried out by the Research Unit in Health and Behavioural Change, at the University of Edinburgh involving a continuous CATI survey begun in July 1987, currently standing at over 9000 interviews, and face to face surveys of 3400 respondents from three geographic areas of different socio-economic status in Scotland.

In the CATI surveys men were more likely to report AIDS as an important issue than in the face-to-face interviews, but overall there was little difference between men and women's responses. More face to face respondents reported more than one sexual partner in the past year than in the CATI sample. However

significantly more CATI respondents report 4 or more partners in the last 5 years.

McQueen considers that attitude questions were more volatile and subject to larger interviewer effects than knowledge or behaviour questions. CATI tended to dampen this effect and also tended to produce a greater number of positive responses to sensitive behavioural questions than the face to face interviews.

McQueen concluded that face to face interviewing, with regard to AIDS related behaviour, showed no evidence of an advantage over telephone interviewing. It appears that people are quite willing to answer sensitive behavioural questions, even when they are quite detailed, over the telephone. Further, the number of respondents terminating the interview when the explicit sexual questions occurred was quite small, usually less than 3%. Therefore, telephone interviewing and CATI may aid speed and cheaper survey interviewing procedures.

PUBLIC DATA IN THE UNITED KINGDOM

The following article by Professor Catherine Hakim, Director of the ESRC Data Archive, appeared in the October issue of *The House Magazine*, the official journal of the Houses of Parliament. Parts of it are reprinted here.

We are accustomed to reports on the implications of information technology for industry, business and even leisure and home life. But there are implications also for information itself. For example data collected at public expense by government departments can now be made available to other organisations, and the public at large, thus expanding utilisation of the information.

These positive developments have to some extent been obscured by the substantial cuts in official statistics and national data collections in the 1980's. The cuts are routinely decried as constituting an attack on the social sciences and a loss of information. But the cuts had positive effects, eliminating a lot of dead wood that had accumulated gradually over the years, making room for new developments and new growth.

Two principles should guide policy from now on. First, there must be *free access to data already available and collected at public expense.*

The Treasury rule that government departments should never pay for the same thing twice (through different avenues for public subsidy) should be applied also to data. Taxpayers (both individuals and companies) should never be required to pay for the release of information and data that was collected at the taxpayers' expense in the first place. All government statistics and datasets that can be released at all (ie. that do not infringe rules of confidentiality) should be classified as being *in the public domain* and, in a sense, owned by the taxpayers who paid for the information to be collected or collated. It can be argued that some taxpayers already make double payments for these public data anyway. For example firms pay the costs of the Government Statistical Service and related research work through tax payments, but they also bear their own costs of form-filling exercises (such as the annual New Earnings Survey) and of periodic interview surveys (such as the Workplace Industrial Relations Surveys).

The second guiding principle is the fact that new technology increases demand for information and makes highly centralised data processing and data analysis obsolete. *It is no longer necessary for government departments to retain a monopoly on data analysis and dissemination of statistics and data that are in the public domain.* It is almost a truism that the more data you provide to people, the more they want. The answer to one question often prompts yet another. And there is increasing awareness of the fact that answers to most questions are available (at least in part) in the great volumes of statistical data collected by the government - and reports such as the CSO's *Guide to Official Statistics* help to advertise the many series available. One indication of the change is the increasing number of PQs that ask for factual or statistical information, and the increasing number of those that remain unanswered because of the cost of carrying out special analyses of existing datasets.

The demand for information may never be fully satisfied. But the demand does not inevitably need to be addressed to the government departments that *collect or create* the data. New technology has given us the desktop micro-computer that is equivalent in power to many of the old mainframe computers. The analyses required by government for its own use, and those presented in the general report on each statistical survey will still need to be carried out centrally within departments. But additional, *ad*

hoc or more specialised analyses can be left to those with a direct interest in the results.

A policy of decentralised data analysis, and disseminating datasets outside government to enable others to do their own special analyses is in line with government policy of privatisation. The essential underpinning is the principle of *free, democratic* access to data created at taxpayers' expense. Government departments cannot be allowed to charge 'royalty fees' or 'data charges' simply for the *release* of existing data, as some (but by no means all) now do. Unfortunately the idea of charging for *data itself* has sometimes been confused and conflated with the principle that government departments must recoup the costs of *carrying out additional special analyses* of the datasets they hold. To charge for a special analysis service may well be justified, but it does not entail attaching a price to the data itself in its original raw state, on a computer tape or other medium.

The mechanisms for implementing a policy of decentralised and free access to data in the public domain already exist - in the shape of a nationally funded Data Archive at the University of Essex, and numerous other research centres in universities throughout Britain that have also accumulated expertise in the analysis of national statistical datasets. The existing infrastructure could be supported and extended by formally identifying a network of *Data Analysis Centres* specialising in the analysis of the major national social and economic statistical datasets. More specifically *local* needs are already being catered for by a network of eight Regional Research Laboratories now being set up by the Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC).

This then is a quite different scenario for the renewal and relaunching of social and economic statistics in the 1990s, taking full advantage of the opportunities offered by technological developments and allowing everyone, for the first time, the option of getting the precise answer they are looking for to their specific question - rather than a near-miss reply from predetermined statistics in voluminous (and unreadable!) official publications.

Catherine Hakim
Director
ESRC Data Archive
University of Essex

THE ACCESS VERSUS COST RECOVERY DILEMMA IN THE SUPPLY OF TOURISM DATA

Introduction

Policies aimed at containing Government expenditure have compelled agencies responsible for collecting data to impose charges on users of their services. This marked departure from previous practice has caused consternation among researchers, who have in the past enjoyed virtually free access to Government funded data bases. Researchers have claimed that the application of the user pays principle by Government authorities restricts their access to data, and will impede the progress of research in Australia as a consequence. It has also been argued that, as the operations and programs of Government agencies are funded by the tax payer, their data is public property and should therefore be freely available to all members of the public.

The paper attempts to address this issue by referring to the experience of the recently established Commonwealth agency, the Bureau of Tourism Research (BTR).

The BTR

The BTR administers two national surveys, the International Visitors Survey and the Domestic Tourism Monitor, which together constitute the key sources of data on international and domestic tourism in Australia. From its inception two years ago, we have been confronted by the apparent conflict between access and cost recovery objectives encapsulated in the following two priorities stated in the BTR's charter:

- To analyse and distribute tourism data in such a way as to encourage its widespread and effective use; and
- To maximise cost recovery on BTR programs.

Balancing these two objectives has been one of the main challenges facing the BTR during its formative years. To appreciate the primacy of the cost recovery requirement it is essential that two key elements of the BTR's establishment be appreciated.

Firstly, the BTR is a new organisation. It was established at a time when fiscal constraints had begun to substantially restrict new funding

initiatives. Mechanisms for attracting supplementary funding were essential. Unlike many of its counterparts in the Federal bureaucracy, which were established during a period of relative plenty with regard to the availability of public funds, the BTR has not had the advantage of a core of well funded programs to provide a precedent for its annual budgetary appropriations.

Secondly, the funding situation of the BTR is unique. Among Commonwealth Government research bureaus, the BTR is the only organisation jointly funded by the Commonwealth and State/Territory Governments. This arrangement is to the advantage of the Commonwealth Government to the extent that it enhances the cost recovery outcome from a Commonwealth point of view. However, the continued commitment of the other 'funding partners', and therefore the continuation of the BTR's programs, is dependent on its ability to insulate them from increasing costs, by earning revenue from other sources.

These two factors have put the BTR under greater pressure to achieve cost recovery objectives than many other agencies.

The Rationale for Cost Recovery

To those academic and tourism industry researchers who argue that the BTR's data is the property of the tax payer and should thus be made available to them free of charge, I offer the following rejoinder.

Government policy dictates that agencies such as the BTR have an obligation to minimise government expenditure in the longer term by maximising the cost recovery outcomes of their programs. The benefits of this policy have been described in terms of reduced taxation, the release of funds for other public goods and the easing of public debt burdens.

The application of the user pays principle provides a just and equitable basis for achieving this objective, while at the same time filling gaps in Government funding. This approach ensures that those who benefit most directly from our programs cover some of the costs. This principle is particularly relevant to sectors of the economy like tourism, where the use of data supplied by Government sources is more likely to translate into commercial gains. Conversely, it can be argued that the user pays principle is less appropriate in the case, for instance, of the

health and welfare sectors, where the use of data is directed more towards the public good rather than purely commercial ends. With the trend towards the general commercialisation of Government activities and privatisation, however, this distinction is becoming increasingly blurred.

The conventional economic argument underlying user pays pricing of Government services is that this approach provides a market mechanism which will result in the more efficient use of limited public resources. A criticism of this argument is that it assumes that the market operates perfectly, but in fact it only has to be better than an administrative or political system of resource allocation to provide a net benefit to the community.

In practice, agencies like the BTR do not recover the full cost of the services they provide. The user tends to pay only a marginal cost, with the Government underwriting the bulk of the expenses. Both 'market' and 'public good' rationales therefore govern the provision of services.

Conclusion

It is in the interest of the community at large that academic and industry researchers have access to data produced by Government agencies like the BTR. To the extent that this is so it is appropriate that the provision of such data be subsidised by the tax payer also. However, the BTR in particular has been confronted with the stark reality, in the current funding climate, of not being able to sustain its programs without the supplementary funding provided by the application of the user pays principle.

A final observation highlights the dilemma of the existing policy situation.

On the one hand, it can be argued that in an environment where academic researchers are themselves increasingly required to apply the user pays principle, the BTR's cost recovery policies are totally consistent with broader developments. The circumstances of university research institutions parallel those of the BTR and similar Government agencies in the sense that they are also being forced to seek private funding support for their research activities. As a consequence of this funding nexus, the activities of these institutions are being increasingly biased towards immediate applications in industry and commerce. The enforcement of the user pays principle, even in

the case of university researchers, is justified when the use of BTR data is linked with commercial gains on the part of both suppliers and users of university based research services.

On the other hand, it is nevertheless true that the direction in which we are moving could stifle the conduct of pure (as opposed to applied) research in our academic institutions. If this is so, such a development is arguably not in the interest of the community at large. Applied research ultimately feeds on pure research and issues concerning the public good, which may be divorced from increasing production and private income, need to be addressed.

Bill Faulkner
Director
Bureau of Tourism Research

DIRECTIONS FOR ABS DATA PROVISION

On 1st January 1988, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) introduced a new pricing policy for its products and services following a directive from the Department of Finance to raise additional revenue. All Commonwealth agencies, State agencies and private users are charged. The new policy has two basic objectives:

to induce users to carefully consider their demands on the ABS, through the application of the user-pays principle; and

to generate revenue to meet government budgetary requirements.

A large variety of ABS products and services are now sold on the principle of recovery of the preparation and production costs.

Cost recovery has affected the way in which clients use the ABS, and the way ABS provides services. On the one hand it has indeed led users to identify their real demands for statistical information and services, and has placed greater pressure on the ABS to provide more responsive and relevant services. However the policy has had a number of negative affects which are yet largely unresolved. One important case of this is the pricing policy for unit record tapes.

In 1983 changes were made to legislation enabling the creation of unit record files for public use provided that individuals could not be identified from the data. Since then a

number of unit record tapes have been made available. The cost of the data comes from the confidentialising and documentation of the data. The ABS policy aims to recover at least the marginal cost of providing a unit record data service.

High prices have been charged for unit record tapes since early 1989, for example the Ageing and Disability Survey will be provided at \$60000. This marks a change in the earlier pricing structure for the data. The ABS found that agencies were purchasing unit record data instead of publications or the special information services of the ABS. The ABS considered that their return for information products from those surveys was sometimes too small, and decided that they were underestimating the real value of the data to the user.

A dilemma lies in the phrase "the real value of the data to the user". One of the major themes of the ABS approach to cost recovery is the argument that any price they may charge is small compared to the cost of undertaking a full data collection. This is undoubtedly correct. But this is not the sole issue in pricing data. The tension lies in the distinction between the 'cost' of the data, that is the expense of data collection, and the 'value' of data which is to be found only in its use.

The unit record tapes are currently receiving little use, which concerns the ABS. As a way of resolving the privacy concerns and cost recovery imperatives that necessitate the creation of expensive unit record tapes the Bureau is considering adopting the Luxembourg System. It is an interesting development: the status of data changes from a single product that is sold, to a resource that can be used in many ways. The price of data is based on the *specific use* of data, rather than the cost of the *entire* data set.

The Luxembourg System will be described in some detail to give researchers an insight into the way the system works elsewhere.

Frances Byers
Social Science Data Archives

THE LUXEMBOURG INCOME STUDY: CENTRALISED DATA RESOURCES

The Luxembourg Income Study (LIS) database experiment began in April 1983 at the Centre for Population, Poverty and Policy Studies (CEPS) in Luxembourg. Its purpose is to gather, in one central location, sophisticated unit record data sets that contain comprehensive measures of income and economic well-being for a set of industrialized welfare states. Comparable data from more than 15 countries are currently available.

The Luxembourg project is an innovative approach to managing access to data resources. It finds new solutions to issues such as distance, cost, and confidentiality. Projects similar to the LIS already operate in the United States, the Survey of Income and Program Participation (SIPP) Centre at the University of Wisconsin-Madison being one instance. The LIS system is unique however due to its virtual worldwide access.

How LIS Works

LIS users are provided with a package which includes a number of resources. First are study descriptions and detailed codebook information for each country data set (ie. similar to the documentation provided by the SSDA or ICPSR.) Another document gives background information about government income distribution schemes for each country, and additional bibliographic sources. The user is also given command files, sample data files containing a random sample of about 200 records from each country, a list of standard recodes to enable comparability and consistency of use, and a package of technical request information. A fee of about \$US20.00 is paid for the total package.

The package provides the potential user with answers to most questions which one could initially ask about LIS. The command file and the test data file ensures that the researcher will write correct procedures before sending the command file to be run on the full data set. The test data file also gives the researcher some sense of the sensibility and utility of the output itself.

The job is sent via the BITNET-EARN system, an electronic mail and file transfer network available at the majority of academic and research centres. The system has three

important features: world wide coverage, low cost and ease of use.

The job is sent to the main computer at Luxembourg. The system for receiving, processing, and returning user requests is automated. The automated mode works 24 hours a day. The system lives in a "sleep state" until a user request arrives. It then "wakes up" determines if the text received is a message, SPSSx request etc. and takes appropriate action. In the case of SPSSx requests the system automatically returns the results by obtaining the user's address from the user database and mailing the SPSSx listing to the mailbox of the requester.

This process includes security checks at every step. First, is the user registered and authorized to use the data base? Next, does the SPSSx run contain commands that could involve 'stealing' individual cases? Lastly, does the run contain errors? A number of procedures are used to deal with this. One is a program that recognises common syntax errors in job submission, and then corrects the errors permitting the request to proceed without issuing an error to the user. Another is the submission of all jobs which fail security or syntax checks to review by technical staff. Other software checks whether the output maintains minimum allowable cell output restrictions, and checks that raw data is not being transmitted. When the job is completed it is mailed back to the user.

The Advantages of LIS

Expertise

The LIS project has built an expert staff of consultants who thoroughly understand the data base both substantively and technically: a combination hard to find. Additionally LIS provides a user pays facility for assistance on large projects.

Extensive thought has been given to facilitating use of the data set. The automation of much of the work has ensured that quality staff time is not wasted on routine tasks. The care taken to provide high quality documentation ensures that researchers are not reliant on personal advice to use the data.

Privacy

Strict privacy restrictions and confidentiality assurances under which data are collected in many countries often makes it impossible to ensure the degree of data confidentiality

necessary for public release. Even when this is possible this process is expensive. Privacy concerns are widespread. Censuses of the population scheduled for 1981 in the Netherlands and 1983 in West Germany had to be postponed due to public concern about privacy, confidentiality and access to data. Similar privacy issues in Sweden have led to substantial increases in refusal to participate in Swedish income and labour force participation studies.

Due to such concerns direct access to the data is restricted to the staff of the LIS project centre who are bound to uphold strict provisions of the government of Luxembourg's Data Access and Privacy laws. As mentioned, runs are screened to ensure that confidentiality is not breached.

Distance

The use of a sample data file system, with jobs sent via BITNET-EARN enables widespread but inexpensive access to data.

Cost

Membership in LIS is open to all countries (and national research agencies who sponsor them) and international research groups. For countries or organizations who donate country datasets to LIS, membership is open at no charge for one year. Following that an annual membership fee will be levied.

User fees are structured to differentiate between member country and non-member country users. There is no charge to reasonable use of the LIS data by member countries. Minimal user charges are levied on researchers from nonmember countries and international research organisations. Cost estimates depend on expected use and difficulty/ease of proposed manipulations. Each member country is allocated 10 days of free staff assistance per year. Following those 10 days, and for non-member countries, charges are charged according to the costs of staff time, related costs, and EARN/BITNET charges.

A general cost distinction is made between 'core' funds used to maintain and upgrade the basic data set and telecommunications network, and 'project' funds. Project funds are charged, as described above, to both member and non-member countries involved in extensive projects demanding substantial expertise from LIS staff.

UPDATE ON AARNet

The Australian academic community is about to reap the benefits from the development of a dedicated Australian Academic and Research Network (AARNet) of computer facilities for the networking of information at a national, state and international level. For further details on AARNet see ACSPRI Newsletter No. 20 September 1989.

At this stage the major effort is focussed on implementation of the network. Completion of the underlying network infrastructure is targeted for April 1990.

One of the major aspects of AARNet is that the network is a national project. Every participating institution will receive identical services within AARNet. To achieve this objective AARNet will be managed as a single entity, with a national perspective on the provision of services.

This doesn't imply that the only mechanism of service delivery will be through the national AARNet group. Coordination works at the national level, and also within each State and within each institution.

The inclusion of State-based Regional Groups into the overall AARNet effort is intended to set up a hierarchical structure. The National level defines the common set of services which make up the AARNet network. The Regional level ensures that local knowledge and resources can be employed. Together this structure aims to enable cost effective solutions to connecting each member site to the network.

Each state has convened a technically-oriented group with members (typically local Network Managers) drawn from each member site. These groups have employed an open structure including standing invitations to interested academics and researchers to attend. This has enabled these groups to be an open forum for the formulation of the most effective mechanism of service delivery to end-users.

AARNet Management Structure

The major components of the proposed AARNet management structure are:

- an AARNet Board with representatives drawn from the 3 funding bodies and the ARC responsible for overseeing activities, policy and initiatives.

SSDA News

- AARNet Board Working Groups which conduct detailed investigations of issues and providing advice to the Board
- AARNet Operations Section of the AVCC Secretariat responsible for the day-to-day working of AARNet both administratively and technically.
- Regional based structures to provide local management and assistance in the installation and maintenance of the individual links to each member site
- the Computing Services Section of each member institution who have the major task of assisting users and disseminating information.

Further details can be obtained from:

Geoff Huston
AARNet Technical Manager
Australian National University
phone (06) 2492285

ASCO-EXPERT

ASCO-EXPERT is a computer-assisted coding package developed by the ABS to enhance the quality and efficiency of occupation coding. It is designed to enable persons with little knowledge of occupation classifications to become accurate and efficient coders in a comparatively short time. As such, ASCO-EXPERT is a very effective training tool.

The package uses the new Australian Standard Classification of Occupations (ASCO), developed jointly by the ABS and the Department of Employment, Education and Training. In response to the varying needs of users, ASCO was developed to classify occupation according to skill level and specialisation - a world first. It was successfully used in the 1986 Census of Population and Housing, saving some \$1.5m in the cost of occupation coding. Many occupation classifications used overseas are now being re-developed to mirror ASCO's structure.

ASCO-EXPERT merges the coder's ability to interpret occupation title and task responses with the fast matching abilities of a microcomputer. Coders are required to enter a two or three character truncation of each word in the occupation title and then choose the correct index entry from a small subset of entries subsequently displayed on the screen. In making these choices, coders are often required to use additional information, usually a specification of the main tasks performed, but

this information does not need to be entered. The system will code responses to the four digit unit group level (282 categories) of the classification.

The product consists of four documents (two manuals and two coding indexes) and either three 360K floppy disks, one 1.2Mb or one 1.44Mb floppy disk that contain the program and ancillary files. The system runs on an IBM XT or AT compatible machine and requires 640K RAM. It may be run from floppy disk, although a hard disk will enhance performance. An installation program is provided for configuring the program to the machine requirements of the user.

The system is expected to be available by early May 1990. A help disk, regular updates and a consultancy service will be provided to assist in optimising the use of the system. It is also planned to further enhance the system by providing interactive tutorials and coding access to the more detailed six digit base occupation level (1079 categories)

Further information can be obtained from Danny Kozak on (02) 268 4408.

THE 1990 AUSTRALIAN ELECTION STUDY

Shortly after the March 1990 federal election a consortium of three universities - the ANU, and the universities of NSW and Queensland - are conducting a national survey of voting in the election. The survey will interview a sample of both voters and candidates in the election, thus replicating the approach and methodology used in the 1987 Australian Election Study.

The Survey of Voters

The sample is 3500 voters, representative of all states and territories, who will be contacted by mail during the week of 26 March. With appropriate follow-ups, a final response rate of around 60 to 65 percent is expected.

Two major themes are covered in the survey, the economy and the environment. Questions on the economy include retrospective and prospective evaluations of the country's economy and the individuals own personal household situation; wages and price controls; attitudes to particular economic issues; and the position of the major parties and party leaders on the main economic issues. Questions on the environment include attitudes to the protection of the environment and to environmental issues in general; the role of industry and the government in ensuring environmental protection; rankings of the most urgent environmental issues and the respondent's assessment of their likely future importance; and attitudes towards environmental pressure and interest groups, including current or likely membership.

As in the 1987 AES, a range of questions are included in the survey which cover election issues and the respondent's assessment of the most effective party to handle them, as well as questions on specific political issues such as government spending and the 'pilots' dispute. A section on social policy includes questions on around 30 contemporary social and moral issues, including abortion, Aboriginal rights,

pornography, health care and many others. A section on industrial policy focuses on attitudes towards the control of the economy, attitudes to trade unions and big business, and to industrial conflict in general.

In addition to the standard questions on vote in the current election, recalled vote in the 1987 federal election, and party identification, the survey contains an extensive section dealing with attitudes to the major parties and to the party leaders. Finally, a range of demographic data are collected for each respondent and their spouse or partner, if applicable.

The Survey of Election Candidates

As in the 1987 AES, candidates for the House of Representatives and Senate in the Federal election will be surveyed. This time, however, the survey will be restricted to candidates for the major parties - Labour, Liberal, National, and Australian Democrat - plus those candidates standing on green and environmental platforms; other minor party candidates and independents will not be included.

The survey replicates some of the questions about the economy, the environment, and social and industrial policy contained in the Voters Survey. This will enable extensive replication to be conducted focusing on mass-elite linkages, both across the electorate as a whole, and disaggregated by party.

In addition, the survey asks questions relating to political background, such as electoral history, party political involvement and membership of community organisations, and questions on pre-selection, such as the support which the candidate was given to gain nomination. A section on campaigning asks candidate's perceptions of the personal attributes and experience which they think are required to make a successful candidate and MP, and the activities that the candidate engaged in during their campaign. A section on women focuses on women's issues, support for women, attitudes to women and attitudes to women as election candidates.

Availability

As with the 1987 AES, the data will be deposited with the Social Science Data Archives at ANU on completion of the survey. The survey of voters will be freely available to academic researchers in Australia and overseas. The survey of candidates will be available in a confidentialised form, omitting demographic and regional identifiers. The principal investigators expect that the data will be deposited by June or July.

ABS UPDATES**Australia's 12th National Census**

The 1991 Census will be conducted on Tuesday 6 August 1991. The date preferred by the ABS for the conduct of the census was the traditional date, around the end of June 1991. However, school holidays in all mainland States are now during June and July meaning that many people would be absent from their normal residence.

Field testing is substantially over, with the completion in 1989 of large exercises in Adelaide and Brisbane. When the findings from these exercises are evaluated, there will remain only the dress rehearsal (20 000 dwellings in Melbourne) in August 1990 to complete the pre-testing. As in Census 1986, the forthcoming Census will use special procedures for the enumeration of remote area Aboriginal communities. The special procedures aim to ensure that Aboriginals living in remote communities are not disadvantaged by literacy problems or difficulties in understanding European administrative concepts and procedures. These procedures have undergone further pre-testing and evaluation for Census 1991, in both form design and administration.

Following consultation, the Government has now decided that the following topics will be included in the 1991 Census:

For each person: Name; Age; Sex; Marital status; Relationship (family structure); Usual residence at census time; Internal migration; Birthplace; Birthplace of parents; Year of arrival; Citizenship; Aboriginal/Torres Strait Island origin; Language use; Religion; Attendance at an education institution.

For each person aged 15 years or more: Education qualifications; Age left school; Income (including family

income); Labour force status.

For each person aged 15 years or more and employed: Occupation; Industry; Hours worked; Journey to work (destination zone coding); Mode of travel to work.

For each household: Number of motor vehicles garaged; House address on census night; Number of bedrooms; Rent; Mortgage; Private dwelling (classification); Non private dwelling and caravan park (classification).

It is expected that preliminary census counts by age and sex for Australia will be available within 9 months of Census day. This is about three months earlier than for 1986 and reflects advances in data capture technology.

ABS Supplementary Surveys

Consultations have been completed regarding the ABS Household Survey Program for 1990/1991. A program of monthly and supplementary surveys are currently underway.

Special Supplementary Surveys (SSS)

Special Supplementary Surveys are major surveys dealing with a specific substantive topic conducted over one year. The surveys develop information on a specific topic, for example time use, by continuing to update data collected in earlier surveys but at the same time collecting new data items to better fit the needs of data users. The inclusion of data items is achieved through consultation.

The 1989-90 National Health Survey commenced in October. Earlier health surveys were conducted in 1977-78 and 1983. The proposed survey for 1990-91 is the Income Survey and Housing Amenities Survey, and for 1991-1992 the Family Survey. The 1992-93 survey may be on Time Use.

The ABS received a number of other submissions but are currently unable to go ahead with them, the principal reasons being budgetary constraints, more lead time and need for further negotiations with other parties. However, they may be included in the program in the future. The surveys requested are: Domestic Travel Expenditure Survey; Crime and its Victims: a victim survey; Aboriginal Survey - a survey of health, education and training, access to community facilities and housing; and a National Dietary Survey.

Monthly Supplementary Programs

The ABS conducts an extensive program of monthly supplementary surveys.

The ABS has reviewed its series of labour supplementary surveys and made changes to a number of topics. Survey topics include: Labour force experience, status, and educational attainment; Labour mobility; Persons not in the labour force; Health Insurance; Superannuation; How workers get their training; Transition from education to work; Characteristics of migrants; Childcare; Trade union membership; Annual and long service leave; Multiple job holding; and Persons employed at home, among many others.

The program of monthly topics of Labour Force surveys is available from the ABS. The plan lists the topics to be asked from 1988 to 1993. Some topics are asked every year, others are asked more infrequently. Information collected from the earlier surveys is currently available. For example, the results of the November 1988 Superannuation survey are now available in the publication *Superannuation Australia* (ABS Cat. No. 6319.0).

INCREASED SSDA/ACSPRI CHARGES FOR DATA

The table below sets out new charges for data supplied by the SSDA/ACSPRI. Charges are based on the size of the data file and the type of organisation requesting the data with respect to academic, government/non-profit and commercial status. Academic status is further subdivided between ACSPRI and non-ACSPRI members, with charges for the latter being higher to encourage membership of ACSPRI. The size of the data file is measured in 80-column card image equivalents, this being a broad indication of the value of the data measured in terms of the number of logical records and the number of variables/records.

This charge includes computer readable documentation files (frequency distributions and SPSS/SPSSx program files) distributed with the data at no extra cost. In addition to the charges listed below for data files, the SSDA charges a service fee of \$60 for each tape reel and a recovery charge on the cost of the reel, and postage and packing. Data can also be supplied on disk: either MS-DOS 5.1/4" floppy disks (360 kbytes or HD 1.2 mbytes of storage) or Macintosh 3.1/2" floppy disks

double-sided (800 kbytes of storage). For the first 5 disks a service fee of \$60 and a recovery charge on the cost of the disks and postage and packing will be charged. For each additional disk, a service charge of \$10 per disk, and disk cost recovery charges will be made.

Charges per data file:

Number of Card Images	Type of Organisation			
	Academic ACSPRI	Non-ACSPRI	Govt/Non-profit	Private
<1000	20	60	40	400
1000-2500	40	120	80	800
2500-5000	60	180	120	1200
5000-10000	80	240	160	1600
10000-25000	100	300	200	2000
25000-50000	120	360	240	2400
50000-100000	140	420	280	2800
.....
Each additional 100000	+20	+60	+40	+400

For example, a copy of the National Social Science Survey (SSDA No. 423) would now cost an ACSPRI member:

3012 cases x 14 records/case = 42 168 records

42 168 records = \$120

\$120 + \$60 + (tape reel) + post/packing = \$200

AUSTRALIAN DATA AVAILABLE

Additions to SSDA holdings are listed below. Please note that some of these carry an Access Category which should be interpreted as follows:

A: the depositor wishes to be informed (by the Archives) of use being made of the data, in order to comment on that use and make contact with colleagues of similar interests

B: the depositor wishes to be informed of each request to use the data in order to give or withhold permission

E: there is an embargo period: no access is permitted until after the date specified

S: there are special access conditions peculiar to the data set in question

U: as specified in the User Undertaking Form, the user is required to obtain the permission in writing of the original depositor of the data, or an authorised representative, before publishing any interpretation of such materials

t.b.a.: to be advised (currently unknown)

For datasets listed as having no special Access Category, users must still sign a standard SSDA User Undertaking Form prior to access.

Data can be ordered in writing from the SSDA, and intending users should specify particular magnetic tape or floppy disk requirements at this time. Charges for data can be supplied on request. Users can also request information or order data using E-mail.

Update The Australian Family Project, 1986 (SSDA No. 497f, 497m)

The Australian Family Project, 1986 has now been released for general access, after previously being restricted to use by members of the Research School of Social Sciences at the ANU. (See ACSPRI Newsletter/SSDA New No. 19, March 1989, for a description of the study). Contact the SSDA for further information.

Office of Multicultural Affairs **Issues in multicultural Australia, 1988-89: general sample** (SSDA No. 534)
Issues in multicultural Australia, 1988-89: NESB Sample (SSDA No. 535)
Issues in multicultural Australia, 1988-89: Second Generation Sample (SSDA No. 536)
Issues in multicultural Australia, 1988-89: Recent Arrivals Sample (SSDA No. 537)

These surveys are part of a large study which aims to examine multiculturalism as a policy, through the experience of Australians; as a set of beliefs, through their attitudes; and as an aspect of cultural maintenance, through their perceptions.

The survey concentrates on three broad themes. First, it examines the attitudes of the Australian and overseas born towards multiculturalism, focussing in particular on views about the maintenance of

customs, ways of life and patterns of behaviour among immigrants. Second, the barriers which exist to providing full access and equity to overseas born groups are analysed, principally in the fields of education, jobs and in the provision of general health and welfare programmes and services. Third, the survey looks at levels of participation in the social and political spheres in community, cultural and work related organisations, and in the use of the political process to remedy problems and grievances.

Separate sections of the questionnaire deal with the respondent's background - country of birth and parents' country of birth, father's occupation and educational level; language, health and services - competency in English, other languages spoken; ethnicity - identification with ethnic groups, government aid to such groups, religious observance; education - school leaving age, qualifications obtained, recognition of overseas qualifications, transition to employment; current job - job status, occupation, industry, trade union membership, gross income, problems looking for work; spouse - country of birth, education and qualifications, occupation and industry, income and income sources; immigration - attitudes to immigration policy, opportunities for immigrants, feelings about various ethnic groups, and attitudes to authority; family and social networks - numbers of children, siblings in Australia, numbers of close friends, neighbours; citizenship - citizenship status, participation in political matters and interest in politics; help from government and bureaucracy with problems; and multiculturalism - views on what multiculturalism means, and its importance to Australian society.

Access category: None

Ruth Scott **Cross cultural secondary student survey of satisfaction and academic success, 1989** (SSDA No. 549)

This study examines some aspects of adjustment to high school of high school students in eight communities: Hong Kong, Taipei, Osaka, Berlin, Winnipeg, Phoenix, Canberra and Brisbane. English-language questionnaires were translated into Cantonese, Mandarin, Japanese and German. Communities were selected to seek a diversity in family pattern and school structure, however final inclusion in the survey was dependent on voluntary participation. Five files record responses to three questionnaires that were administered: 2 student files, 2 parent files and 1 teacher file.

The research aimed at identifying some distinctive associations between specific adaptive problems and personality characteristics, on the one hand, and specific family patterns on the other. Students were surveyed to provide information on their: academic performance, sociometric popularity and students' own satisfaction with school friends and academic performance. Parents and teachers were also surveyed to provide information about the students' personalities (self-esteem, anxiety, interpersonal competence and hostility) and family relations (solidarity, parental nurturance, permissiveness and punitiveness).

Access category: None

Australian Teachers' Union **Conditions in Australian schools, 1976** (SSDA No. 551) **Conditions in Australian schools, 1978** (SSDA No. 552)

These surveys are the earliest in a series of surveys carried out every two years since 1976 by the Australian Teachers' Federation (now the Australian Teachers' Union). The basic aim of this survey program is to gather information on the working conditions of teachers and students - the human and physical resources available - in government primary and secondary schools in all Australian states and territories.

A principal or senior teacher from each school in the sample was asked to complete a questionnaire which covered the following information: numbers of students and total numbers of teachers; numbers of ancillary staff; class sizes in both primary and secondary school classes; perceived shortfalls in staffing and in relief teachers. The numbers of classrooms with various facilities (cooling, heating etc), with maintenance problems, and with occupational health difficulties (dust, glare, noise, fumes etc) were collected; in addition, the total numbers of classrooms, and purpose built areas (such as laboratories, canteens, art rooms etc) were enumerated and assessed for their adequacy in terms of school needs.

Access category: None

The Advertiser (Adelaide) **The Adelaide Advertiser Women's survey, 1988** (SSDA No. 553)

In August 1988, the Adelaide newspaper, The Advertiser conducted a survey of women's attitudes

and behaviour, with a 100 item questionnaire printed in the newspaper. A series of articles over eight weeks based on the questionnaire were published in the newspaper. Results of this survey are used in the AIFS publication **Sexual Attitudes and Behaviours: A review of the literature**.

Sections in the questionnaire covered housing preference, work, finance, equality and autonomy, relationships, children, sexuality, AIDS, emotions, attitudes to social issues, life directions and some demographic details. Questions included women's perceptions of the effect of men's and women's careers on their relationships, financial independence, men's and women's roles in relationships, infidelity, casual sex, attitudes to AIDS, condom use, incest, rape, euthanasia, and main satisfactions and dissatisfactions of their lives. Social background variables are age, marital status, household composition, industry and description of own job.

Access category: None

Australian Institute of Family Studies **Economic Consequences of Marriage Breakdown** (SSDA No. 555)

In 1980, the Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the Family Law Act recommended that arrangements for the introduction of a Matrimonial Property Regime should be preceded by research. In June 1983, the Attorney General referred the issue of matrimonial property to the Law Reform Commission with Terms of Reference which required a consideration of whether any changes should be made to the law and a consideration of whether any system introduced should affect the acquisition and management of assets held during a continuing marriage. The Law Reform Commission and the Australian Institute of Family Studies (AIFS) considered that a full review of matrimonial property should include a consideration of the effects of marriage breakdown on the economic situation of divorced people. Such research would amplify the reference to incorporate the experiences and views of men and women in a variety of circumstances, and would enable the Law Reform Commission to assess the impact of the operation of laws in an empirical, as well as a technical, sense.

The broad aims of the study of the Economic Consequences of Marriage Breakdown (ECMB) were to map the financial arrangements made in marriages; to describe the post-marriage-breakdown

circumstances of men and women who were parties to different arrangements; to assess the effects of social status, education and employment background, and the types of legal processes used on Court outcomes; and finally, on the basis of these analyses, to make policy recommendations relating to the public and private law.

The data set covers that portion of the Economic Consequences of Marriage Breakdown data set that dealt principally with the distribution of property in a divorce, including the more difficult areas of superannuation, businesses, farms and responsibility for debts. Income sources and income received before and after the divorce are recorded in detail, as are other financial arrangements, such as superannuation, insurance policies, debt, savings, mortgages, and value of the house and car, and cash payments to or from respondents. Other variables on financial matters include advice received on property distribution and the means by which the division of household property occurred. Background variables include age, sex, current household arrangements, age of children, education and occupation of self and spouse.

Access category: None

Andrew Turner **Visitors to New South Wales National Parks, 1978** (SSDA No. 554) **Members of NSW and ACT conservation groups, 1978** (SSDA No. 559)

These two surveys aimed to provide information about outdoor recreation behaviour and environmental attitudes in Australia in the late 1970's. Two surveys were conducted. The first was of visitors entering three National Parks - Royal, Kinchega, and Kosciusko - in the summer period. Questionnaires were distributed to be completed on-site and returned at the end of the visit. The other survey was of members of special interest conservation/recreation groups in Australia. An initial survey of 200 conservation/recreation groups was conducted to provide basic information. Following this survey, members of 4 special interest groups, the National Parks Association, the Sydney Bushwalkers, the Canberra Bushwalking Club and the Carlingford-North Rocks Bushland Trust were surveyed as groups representative of recreation and nature conservation oriented groups at that time.

Questions asked include: length of visit; purpose of visit; recent visits to other National Parks; formation

and size of party visiting the National Park; planning of visit; membership of clubs and societies; membership of outdoor/conservation societies; activities participated in while in Park; attitudes about national park management. Background variables include: residence, sex, age, occupation, marital status, education, country of birth, income.

Access category: None

Nigel Roberts et al. **New Zealand Pre-election Survey, 1975** (SSDA No. 556) **New Zealand Pre-election Survey, 1981** (SSDA No. 557) **New Zealand Election Survey, 1981** (SSDA No. 558)

The Election and Pre-Election Surveys are part of a series of New Zealand Surveys that we are in the process of acquiring. The earlier surveys had the most extensive area coverage of personal interview surveys that had been conducted to that time.

The main focus of the surveys was personal voting. The respondent was questioned as to his knowledge, contact with, and opinions of candidates standing in his electorate, and his likes and dislikes of leaders of the major parties. His opinion about the probable outcome of the election at both a local and national level was sought, as was his perception of important issues at a local and national level. Background variables include duration of residence in the electorate, past vote, whether he has ever changed his vote, further education after leaving school, occupation, age, religion, country of birth and self-assessment of class.

Access category: None

Tourism Tasmania, **Tasmania Visitor Survey 1988** (SSDA No. 550)

The Tasmania Visitor Surveys have been conducted since 1978 by Tourism Tasmania. There are now 5 surveys held by the SSDA, the 1978, 1981, 1984, and 1986 studies (SSDA No. 332, 333, 543, 544) and now the 1988 study. Combined, these surveys cover responses from approximately 30 000 visitors to Tasmania over the decade 1978 to 1988. Since 1988 Tourism Tasmania has decided to carry out the surveys on an annual basis.

There have been a number of small changes to question categories over the period, in addition to some new questions on itinerary. On the whole however, there are few changes to question items.

Variables include purpose of visit; booking, arrival and departure choices; transport and accommodation use; regional coverage, places visited and activities participated in; satisfaction with visit to Tasmania; previous visits and intention to return; spending; and background variables such as age, sex, income, postcode (if Australian) or country (if an international visitor).

Access category: None

ICPSR ADDITIONS TO HOLDINGS

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins dated December 1989 and February 1990. Datasets are not currently held by the SSDA, but can be ordered from ICPSR on request. Contact the SSDA for more details.

Age and Residence Differences in Household Composition, 1980: (United States) (ICPSR 9253)

Charging and Sentencing of Murder and Voluntary Manslaughter Cases in Georgia; 1973-1979 (ICPSR 9264)

Current Population Survey, January 1988: Displaced Workers (ICPSR 9285)

Current Population Survey, June 1973 (ICPSR 9262)

Current Population Survey, June 1988: Fertility, Birth Expectations, and Immigration (ICPSR 9284)

Current Population Survey, November 1987: Veterans Supplement (ICPSR 9260)

Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System (United States): Extract Files, 1984 (ICPSR 9162)

Female Labour Force Participation and Marital Instability, 1980: (United States) (ICPSR 9199)

General Social Surveys, 1972 - 1989: (Cumulative File) (ICPSR 9275)

Immigrants Admitted to the United States, 1987, 1988 (ICPSR 9268, 9269)

Intersection of Personal and National History, 1985: (United States) (ICPSR 9257)

National Health Interview Survey, 1977: Hearing Supplement (ICPSR 9228); National Health Interview Survey, 1978: Health Insurance Supplement (ICPSR 9227); National Health Interview Surveys, 1978, 1979: Smoking Supplements (ICPSR 9220, 9212); National Health Interview Survey 1979: Eye Care Supplement (ICPSR 9221); National Health Interview Survey, 1987: AIDS Supplement (ICPSR 9271)

National Survey of Hunting, Fishing, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation, 1985 (ICPSR 9225)

National Survey of Law Enforcement Agencies, 1987 (ICPSR 9222)

Population Estimates for State and Counties with Components of Change, 1981-1987 (ICPSR 9261)

Procedural Reform of Jury Murder Convictions in Georgia, 1970-1978 (ICPSR 9265)

Projections of the Population of States by Age, Sex and Race (United States): 1988 to 2020 (ICPSR 9270)

Sandhills (North Carolina) Vocational Delivery System Evaluation Project, 1983-1987 (ICPSR 9224) Sex Discrimination as Perceived by Adult Males and Females, 1985: (New Jersey) (ICPSR 9250)

State Party Organisations, 1960-1980: (United States) (ICPSR 8281)

Swedish Election Test-Data Series: Swedish Election Studies, 1956, 1960, 1964, 1968, 1970, 1973, 1976, 1979, 1982 (ICPSR 9120-9128)

American National Election Study: 1989 Pilot Study (ICPSR 9295)

American's Changing Lives: Wave 1, 1986 (ICPSR 9267)

Annual Data on Nine Economic and Military Characteristics of 78 Nations (SIRE NATDAT), 1948-1983

Correlates of Crime: A Study of 52 Nations, 1960-1984 (ICPSR 9258)

Country Population Estimates (Experimental) by Age, Sex, and Race: 1980-1985 (ICPSR 9294)

Current Population Survey, June 1974 (ICPSR 9281); Current Population Survey, June 1976 (ICPSR 9282); Current Population Survey, June 1977 (ICPSR 9283)

Delinquency in a Birth Cohort II: Philadelphia, 1958-1986 (ICPSR 9293)

Federal Justice Statistics Program Data, 1978-1986: (United States) (ICPSR 9296)

Improving Evidences Collection Through Police-Prosecutor Co-ordination in Baltimore, 1984-1985 (ICPSR 9290)

Intensive Supervision Program in New Jersey, 1983-1986 (ICPSR 9291)

International Crisis Behaviour Project, 1929-1985 (ICPSR 9286)

Marital Instability Over the Life Course, 1983: (United States) (ICPSR 9200)