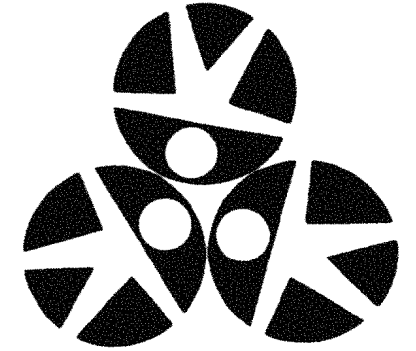


ACSPRI newsletter

Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated
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incorporating

SSDA news

Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences,
Australian National University

ACSPRI newsletter

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This newsletter is produced at the Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200. (Phone (06) 249 4400; Fax (06) 249 4722) Articles, letters, research notes, conference information and other contributions are encouraged. Write to the editors at the address listed above, or send using e-mail to ssda@anu.edu.au

This issue of the newsletter was edited by Sarah Mugford and Joye McLaughlin, with assistance from Steven Craddock.

ACSPRI Activities

ACSPRI Membership News

ACSPRI is pleased to welcome two new member institutions to the Consortium as well as new Representatives from La Trobe University and the University of Adelaide.

Since the March issue of the Newsletter, **Murdoch University** has become the 31st university to become a fully fledged member of ACSPRI. Associate Professor **Ralph Straton**, Dean of the School of Education, will be Murdoch's Representative on the Council of ACSPRI. His telephone number is 09 360 2343 and his fax number is 09 310 5299.

The Commonwealth **Department of Industrial Relations** has also recently joined the Consortium, becoming its 8th government member. Mr **David Quinn**, Director of the Workplace Research Section, will serve as DIR's ACSPRI Representative. His telephone number is 06 243 7771 and fax number is 06 243 7300.

With Bob Powell's retirement, La Trobe University has announced that long-serving ACSPRI Summer/Winter Program instructor Dr **Brian Graetz**, Associate Dean (Information Technology), School of Sociology and Anthropology, will become La Trobe's new Representative. Brian's telephone number is 03 479 2686 and fax number is 03 479 2705.

The University of Adelaide has announced that Professor **Graham Hugo** of the Department of Geography will become Adelaide's new ACSPRI Representative, following Professor Ian Davey's move to the University of South Australia. Graham may be contacted by telephone on 08 303 5643 and by fax on 08 224 0464.

1995 ACSPRI Summer Program

Australian National University
23 January — 3 February

ACSPRI's 11th Summer Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology, co-hosted with the Research School of Social Sciences and the Faculties, will be held at the Australian National University from 23 January through to 3 February 1995, a week earlier than previous Programs. Courses will be run as normal, with the usual tea/coffee facilities, on Australia Day, Thursday 26 January, but in honour of the occasion a special lunch will be catered for participants.

The shift in Summer Program scheduling is required to enable the ANU's Faculties Computing Unit (FCU) to both provide its usual excellent service to the Summer Program and adequately prepare its facilities for the first ANU teaching semester in 1995. FCU resources have been stretched to the limit before, during and after the 1993 and 1994 Programs, and, as a result, ACSPRI planning for SP95 has needed to take this into account. In addition to being moved forward a week, the Program will offer slightly fewer courses than did SP94.

The Summer Program will, however, offer some new/revised courses, as well as its standard ones, in the areas of: survey research design; sampling; introductory statistics; regression analysis; factor analysis, measurement and scaling; data analysis in SPSS and SAS; log-linear modelling; multilevel analysis; dynamic and longitudinal analysis; program evaluation; and qualitative research.

The Brochure accompanying this Newsletter provides advance details about the Program, including course areas, fees, accommodation and airfares, but does not give course titles or descriptions. For comprehensive information about the Program, including descriptions for all courses and full application details, those interested must consult the **Course Booklet**, available from ACSPRI — SP95, Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences, the Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200. Tel: 06 249 4400; Fax: 06 249 4722.

ACSPRI's First Winter Program

The first ACSPRI Winter Program was held in Perth during the week of July 4th-8th at the University of Western Australia. Co-hosted by the Faculties of Arts and Architecture and the Faculties of Economics and Commerce, Education and Law (ECEL), the Program initiated an annual winter series of courses, modelled on the successful format of the ACSPRI Summer Program, but to be held over one week instead of two, with fewer courses, and in a location outside the Sydney - Canberra - Melbourne triangle.

Perth was chosen as the location for the inaugural Winter Program, because, owing to higher Perth - Canberra return airfares, fewer social researchers from Western Australian universities and government research units have attended the annual Summer Program. UWA was selected as the Program venue because of its central setting in Perth, the availability of excellent computing resources in the Faculties of ECEL, and the unquestioned attractiveness of the UWA campus, situated on the banks of the Swan River. Moreover, substantial local administrative support was promised, and delivered, by the Department of Political Science, through its head, A/Prof Campbell Sharman, and the Office of the Executive Dean (Prof Paige Porter), Faculty of ECEL. The ACSPRI Representatives from Curtin University of Technology (Dr David Charnock), Edith Cowan University (Prof Rod Underwood), and Murdoch University (A/Prof Ralph Straton) were also active in helping publicise the Program.

Nearly 50 individuals attended the Winter Program, 41 of them coming from the Perth area. The University of Western Australia (16), Edith Cowan University (9), and Curtin University of Technology (7) contributed the majority of local participants, with the State office of the ABS (4), WA Office of the Auditor General (2), WA Office of Training (1), Murdoch University (1), and Department of Human Services and Health (1), contributing the balance. Encouragingly, the costs associated with trans Nullarbor travel did not deter all

interstate researchers from participating in the Program, with enough individuals attending from the University of Central Queensland (2), Queensland University of Technology (1), Macquarie University (1), ATSIIC in Canberra (1), RMIT (1), Flinders University (1), and the Northern Territory Tourist Commission (1) to give all states and capital cities representation.

In order to determine which six to eight courses (drawn from those offered at SP94) were likely to be in local demand at the Perth Program, the ACSPRI Reps from WA were consulted, and expressions of interest in ten nominated courses were called for in the March Newsletter. Five introductory (Block 1), two intermediate (Block 2), and three advanced (Block 3) level courses were nominated, of which a minimum of four would need to run for the Program to be viable.

In late April, Course Booklets were posted to ACSPRI Representatives in Perth for distribution locally, and an extensive direct email campaign was targeted at staff and students at WA universities. Concurrently, a one-page announcement of the Program was faxed to all WA Government departments and to leading Perth market research firms.

By late June, five courses had the requisite enrolment to be run at the Winter Program: Introduction to Statistics (8), taught by Kay Lipson of Swinburne University of Technology; Qualitative Research Techniques (13), by Carol Grbich of Flinders University; Factor Analysis, Measurement and Scaling (9), Brian Graetz of La Trobe University; Advanced Topics in Statistics (6), David Chant of the University of Queensland; and Introduction to LISREL (13), Philip Holmes-Smith of the University of Melbourne.

With fewer courses running, and lower enrolments per course, the Winter Program offered participants increased access to computer lab time and more individualised assistance from instructors than have recent Summer Programs. In addition to the excellent computing and teaching afforded by the reduced scale of the UWA Program, participants

enjoyed the collegiality of al fresco, Mediterranean-style, lunch gatherings at the Matilda Bay Tea Room, and a convivial Program dinner at La Carousel French Restaurant (the organisation for which was largely undertaken by a well-known and dedicated ACSPRI participant from Edith Cowan University).

ACSPRI wishes to thank its instructors for their excellent teaching, the University of Western Australia for providing such strong support for the Program, and, of course, the Program participants for helping ACSPRI successfully launch its new Winter series of courses.

New from the BHPS

The ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change has published its first book **Changing Households: The British Household Panel Survey 1990-92**, by Nick Buck, Jonathan Gershuny, David Rose and Jacqueline Scott (eds).

The book presents the first findings from the British Household Panel Survey. The 10,000 members of the panel, randomly selected from throughout Great Britain are interviewed annually about their work, income, health, attitudes, household living arrangements, housing and consumption.

In this book, researchers from the ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change (which conducts the BHPS) analyse the data from the first two Waves of the study. Each chapter examines a different aspect of change in people's lives and the introduction provides an overview of longitudinal surveys in general and the BHPS in particular.

Chapter Contents

- 1: Introducing household panels.
- 2: Family and work 1900 to 1992.
- 3: Household and family change.
- 4: Income, welfare and consumption.
- 5: Measuring claimant populations.
- 6: Housing and residential mobility.
- 7: Changes in economic activity.
- 8: Changes in smoking, self-assessed health

and subjective wellbeing.

9: Divisions and allocations within households.

10: Stability of voting intentions.

11: Reflections on personal and family life.

Appendix: Sample Characteristics, attrition and weighting.

Sept 1994; Paperback; 336 pages; ISBN 1 85871 102 9; pounds 12.95 plus p&p. Published and distributed by ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change. To purchase a copy please send a cheque (UK pounds) made payable to the 'UNIVERSITY OF ESSEX', for £14.50 inc. p&p (UK), for £15.00 inc. p&p(Europe), for £16.50 inc. p&p (Overseas). Send it to: Changing Households, ESRC Research Centre on Micro-social Change, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester CO4 3SQ. Allow 28 days for delivery. Orders cannot be taken by email, fax or 'phone.

Software for Research Methods Training

(Ed Brent, Department of Sociology, University of Missouri and developer of **Methodologist's Toolchest** and **Methodologist's Assistant** teaching software.)

We are now beta testing a new program designed to be used in research methods courses to help students prepare research proposals. The new program is called **P.R.E. (Peer Review Emulator)**. This program emulates the peer review process by asking users (students) to answer key questions about various aspects of their proposal (with extensive hypertext advice about what the terms mean and the kinds of responses that might be appropriate). Then the program points out criticisms that others might raise regarding their study. It encourages students to be consistent within each component of the study (sampling, design, etc.) like textbooks on methods. However, unlike textbooks that break these issues into separate chapters and have little or no connection between them, this program emphasizes linkages from one section to the next, encouraging students to consider how their sampling plan affects their analysis, how data collection procedures affect measurement, and so on.

If anyone is interested in beta testing this program by examining it themselves, or by having a few students try it out, please let me know. It's still a bit rough in places and some sections are not complete, but I'm using it with my own students this semester and in a few other select classes and so far students are finding it helpful despite its imperfections.

The current P.R.E. program runs on MS/DOS or IBM/DOS machines with 640K RAM. It requires about 1.5 MBytes of hard disk space. It runs under DOS and does not require Windows—though a Windows version is under development. (Ed Brent can be reached at: SOCBRENT@MIZZOU1.MISSOURI.EDU. Fax: 1+ (314) 875-5812)

The CAQDAS Networking Project: e-mail DISCUSSION GROUP

(Ann Lewins, CAQDAS, Dept of Sociology, University of Surrey)

CAQDAS (Computer Assisted Qualitative Data Analysis Software) is a project (mainly coming out of University of Surrey, and RHBNC, University of London) which aims to disseminate debate, and understanding about the practical skills needed to use software for text-based analysis. We lay on intro courses, training days, seminars, a help line AND, most recently, an e-mail DISCUSSION GROUP: **qual-software**. Only just set up, we hope that this will gather speed after the summer break is over. Several software developers have agreed to subscribe, and this is great. the project obviously tries to involve developers as much as possible in training days and seminars as well as the discussion group. Also we want it to be a list devoted to any and all packages, so the more developers the better. I am the joint list owner, but Ray Lee and Nigel Fielding are co-directors of the project. But most of all it's users that we need, and I hope you will really provide backbone of content, argument, questions or whatever and be able to make constructive use of the list.

DISCUSSION GROUP on e-mail:- launched in August 1994, this aims to provide an instant

forum for debate, network support, problem solving and information. This will be open to anyone with an interest in qualitative research, users of relevant software packages, and the developers themselves.

Subscriber information etc about the list is available from:

qual-software-request@mailbase.ac.uk

or subscribe yourself by sending a msg to:

mailbase@mailbase.ac.uk

In the text of the msg put: **join qual-software albert einstein** (replace albert einstein with your own name)

Q.S.R., NUD•IST, the Net, and 12-16 December Workshop

(Lyn Richards, Sociology and Anthropology, La Trobe University)

La Trobe University has now set up a spin-off company, Qualitative Solutions and Research, to develop and market NUD•IST software and provide client services. Offices at the Research Park house the small research and development team. A hotline is staffed daily (email help@qsr.latrobe.edu.au). Any level of tutoring, research advice and a typing service can be provided for researchers. QSR also runs its own mailing list and archive site on the Internet (see below).

Q.S.R. NUD•IST qualitative analysis software is available now in full graphical user interface for PC compatible machines running Windows. Rev. 3.0, out for Macintosh computers late last year, is identical on both platforms, and has been received with enthusiasm. NUD•IST is now hardly recognisable to those familiar with the prototype scroll mode. Its basic architecture is the same; document system and index system linked by processes of coding data at flexibly organised categories and explored by sets of tools for recording ideas and searching text or indexing. But the software's functionality is now very greatly enhanced, extending it a long way beyond mere coding for retrieval. At the same time it has become very intuitive, simple and quick to learn and use, for small or large projects.

What are the changes? The screen displays the "tree-structure" of an index that can be organised in category, subcategory etc. This screen display can be directly manipulated, as the researcher moves around categories, putting references or ideas at any node, and shifting and restructuring them as understanding of the data grows. Indexing can now optionally be done on the screen swiftly with a few mouse-clicks, simply by highlighting the text to be indexed and selecting the node at which references are to be stored. NUD•IST now has its own editor, so data documents can be edited even after they're indexed, reports and retrievals can be edited, and memos for nodes or documents can be written and edited. The fluidity of the multiple-windows interface means that researchers can move between tasks, coding, storing ideas, revising them, scanning documents, exploring the patterns of indexing or testing hypotheses, storing answers as more data and exploring them further.

The new NUD•IST also minimises and automates the clerical tasks of handling messy data. A lot of the feedback is that researchers find more time can be spent playing with data and thinking about it. Command files are directly edited and run on screen now, so indexing can be done automatically by text search very quickly and much data automatically coded. Any processes can be done by running a file of commands. As NUD•IST became swifter and simpler, with the new interface, it has been increasingly used for little projects, quick enquiries and student-level work. (An entry-level version is sold at a low price.)

The new version also increases the power of the tools for analysis that are available for those who want them. NUD•IST will search text or indexing, and these searches can be combined in analysis processes. Text search includes a complete set of pattern-matching search tools. Searches now include a wider range (there are 18 different ways of asking questions about the indexing, and they can be combined in complex explorations to test hypotheses, or draw matrices of qualitative data). NUD•IST retains its unique ability to save the answer to questions asked in text search or searches of indexing,

so you can keep asking questions to build and explore theory. (QSR will send demonstration disks for free, see contact details below, or you can pick the demonstration version (for IBM/PC or Mac) off the FTP site.)

Q.S.R. is taking advantage of the Internet explosion to provide a wide range of services to users and the curious. We maintain three document archives which are in heavy demand: the Unix-ish ftp (file transfer protocol), the user-friendly Gopher which encourages burrowing around in cyberspace, and the herald of the future, the beautiful World Wide Web. We keep on these, information files about Q.S.R., product descriptions and price-lists and ordering information about NUD•IST, research papers about qualitative data analysis, information about other Internet sites on qualitative data analysis, and lots more. All these are available for downloading to your computer. Ftp and gopher addresses are qsr.latrobe.edu.au (or find our Gopher site by burrowing around the La Trobe University Gopher). The WWW URL (address) is <http://qsr.latrobe.edu.au/>.

We also run a mailing list about computational qualitative data analysis, and NUD•IST in particular, which often has lively debates as well as helping users exchange ideas. Many non-NUD•IST users are subscribers. You can join by sending a request email to mailing-list-request@qsr.latrobe.edu.au. A new QSR service is a mailing list for NUD•IST teachers/trainers and support persons worldwide, to encourage the development and sharing of user training and support materials and skills. Finally, help@qsr.latrobe.edu.au is for users and others who want to ask about NUD•IST or get advice on a problem. Behind this lies a growing computer database of user query records so we can retrieve our experience on each question (we call the database FAQ for Frequently Asked Questions) and email back a full response immediately.

A full week training **Workshop on Qualitative Research with NUD•IST** will be held at the **Research Park Centre, La Trobe University, Bundoora campus, December 12-16th**. This timing allows a quick weekend on the southern

ocean after the TASA conference, at Deakin, Geelong. Then up to the pleasing surrounds of the new Park Centre, staffed by herons, ducks and a high tutor-participant ratio. Our goal for the weeklong workshop is to combine discussion and teaching of research approaches and techniques with training in use of the software that includes all its processes and advanced work in research design and analysis.

This workshop assumes no prior knowledge of the software, and offers training through to advanced techniques, with hands-on experience in each process of data handling and analysis. Participants can work on the machine of their choice (IBM/PC or Macintosh) - the software is identical in the graphical user interface on both platforms. BYO data if you like; workshop sessions will allow participants to handle and discuss their own project data, or the data provided.

The cost for the week is **\$750**, (\$600 for unwaged fulltime students). \$50 discount for those bringing their own computers. Cost includes handouts and demonstration software, morning and afternoon coffee and home-cooked lunches. College or motel accommodation can be arranged. **Enquiries to QSR, (03) 459-1699 or email: help@qsr.latrobe.edu.au**.

Conferences

Multilevel Modelling: A Conference and Workshop 22-23 September 1994

A meeting organised by the Multilevel Applications Project (MAP), University of Portsmouth, on behalf of the Quantitative Studies Method Group of the Institute for British Geographers will take place at the University of Portsmouth, Thursday 22nd and Friday 23rd September 1994.

Multilevel modelling is increasingly being seen as an important quantitative framework for both social and environmental scientists. Yet

multilevel models have been little used in human and physical geography, despite their enormous potential for modelling variations in effects across different social, temporal and geographical contexts. Multilevel models allow the incorporation of structure in statistical models and have a capacity to tease out compositional and contextual effects, and the interaction between the two. They also provide a compromise between individual level and aggregate ecological analyses, and offer more efficient and precise model estimates. This meeting provides an opportunity for participants to:

- Learn about basic multilevel models and concepts within a workshop setting
- Gain hands on experience for the ML3 multilevel modelling software package
- Consider current applications of multilevel modelling

Conference fee: £65 including overnight University accommodation and all meals; £52.50 without bed and breakfast.

The I.B.G.'s Quantitative Studies Method Group has some funds to help support participation of postgraduate students who are members of the institute. If you are interested in attending, and/or wish to present a paper, please contact:

ML Conference
University of Portsmouth
Department of Geography
Buckingham Building
Lion Terrace
Portsmouth PO1 3HE
Telephone: (0705) 842487
Fax: (0705) 842512
Email: map@uk.ac.portsmouth.csovax

Annual Conference of the Australian Political Science Association (APSA) 1-3 October 1994

To be held at the University of Wollongong. Themes include Australasian, International/Asia Pacific and Environmental Politics and Public Policy, Political Economy, Political Theory and Teaching Politics.

Contact: Kathy Banks or Anthony Ashbolt (042) 213 704 Fax: (042) 213 180.

**International Association of Official
Statistics in conjunction with the African
Statistical Association Conference
3-7 October 1994**

Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

Contact: Denise Lievesley
ESRC Data Archive
University of Essex
Colchester
Essex
C04 3SQ
Telephone: (0206) 872003
Email: archive@essex.ac.uk

**8th International Education Conference
5-7 October 1994**

The IDP Education Australia 8th International Education Conference, 'Educating Australia Internationally' is to be held at the Sydney Hilton. The conference theme reflects the growing maturity of international education in Australia and the identification of internationalism as a main stream issue at all levels of education as well as in the Australian society and economy. The conference is the main national event in professional development and networking for all those associated with international education in Australia and comprises keynote presentations, formal papers, practical workshops, interactive country focus sessions and education sector-specific meetings.

Contact: Anna Glynne
IDP Education Australia (Sydney)
Phone: (02) 331 3165 Fax: (02)380 6839
Email: annag@idp.edu.au

**Australian Families in the 90's, Issues and
Questions
8th October 1994**

The University of Melbourne is holding a public forum on 'Australian Families in the 90's Issues and Questions'. Speakers are: Dr Malia Stevens, Women's Studies, "What is a family?"; Dr Ruth Fincher, Geography, "Caring and the family in different social contexts - public policy perspectives"; Dr Richard Ingleby, Faculty of

Law and Gagens Ridgeway, Lawyers, "Can family law deal with family violence?"; and Associate Professor Margaret Hamilton, Public Health and Community Medicine, "Alcohol, drugs and the family". Chairperson is Professor Patricia Grimshaw, Department of History.

Contact: Jan Harper (03) 344 4438 Fax: (03)344 4694

**Geographic Information and Business
Processes
18-20 October 1994**

Kongresshaus Stadhalle, Hiedelberg,
Germany

Contact: Ing. Hans J Festen
Conference Chairman
AM/FM International - European Division
Clarastrasse 57
PO Box 6
4005 Basel
Switzerland
Telephone: (+4161) 691 5111
Fax: (+4161) 691 8189

**International Year of the Family Conference
7-8 November 1994**

International Year of the Family Conference, to be hosted by the City of Melbourne at the Regent Hotel, Melbourne. Themes to include: co-operation and initiatives of government, the business and community sectors to support and strengthen families and their quality of life and improving the 'Family Friendliness' of cities and towns. Keynote speakers include Mr Charles Landry, Consultant Co-media, Consultancy Research Planning Gloucester, England; and Mr Jeff Kenworthy, Institute for Science and Technology Policy, Murdoch University, Perth WA. Concurrent sessions will cover: physical and environmental attributes that make a city family friendly; services that support a city's social infrastructure; education opportunities across the age spectrum; recreational and sporting opportunities offered by a family friendly city; arts and cultural experiences available to the whole family; transport and transport systems, public and private, that

support the family; opportunities for community participation.

Contact: The Conference Organiser
The Meeting Planners
108 Church Street
Hawthorne Victoria, 3122
Phone:(03) 819 3700
Fax: (03) 819 5978

**Playing for Keeps
The Australian Archives Electric Records
Management Conference
8-10 November 1994**

The Australian Archives Electric Records Management Conference is to be held at the Hyatt Hotel in Canberra. In May 1993 planning started in earnest for the first international electronic records management conference to be held in this country. Australian Archives recognised the need for such a conference to address the problems associated with electronic records in terms of their management, storage and subsequent access. These issues will be examined under three themes: developments around the world, Australian initiatives and the role of technology in providing solutions.

In addition to leading Australian specialists the Archives is fortunate to have the following world recognised experts accept invitations to present papers:

- Mr David Bearman, President, Archives and Museum Informatics, USA
- Dr Margaret Hedstrom, Director, Center for Electronic Records Office, UK
- Dr Edward Higgs, formerly Project Manager, Public Records Office, UK
- Mr Hans Hofman, Director, Electronic Records Project, Netherlands Archives
- Mr John McDonald, National Archives of Canada
- Dr Ken Thibodeau, Director, Center for Electronic Records, National Archives and Records Administration, USA

Support from the following organisations has vindicated the view that the problems associated with effective electronic records

management effects a range of professions in the information area:

- Attorney-General's Department
- Australian Council of Archives
- Australian Council of Libraries and Information Services
- Australian Society of Archives
- Monash University
- Records Management Association of Australia

These affiliates have sponsored overseas speakers and are assisting in the promotion of the conference.

The response to publicity has been very encouraging with a wide degree of interest shown both in Australia and overseas. For example, the Electronic Records Committee of the International Council on Archives, with members from a number of countries, has scheduled its next meeting in Canberra to facilitate attendance of its members at the conference.

Those who have registered to date form a quite diverse group. A small sample taken from the current registrations illustrates this:

The National Library of Australia, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Information Systems Office, the Australian Museum, the University of Melbourne, private individuals, consulting firms, the Victorian State Revenue Office, the State Archives of Western Australia, the Defence Science and Technology Organisation, the Australian Broadcasting Authority, a pharmaceutical company, the NSW Department of Courts Administration, and the Australian Nature Conservation Authority.

The conference will cover areas of particular interest to those involved in information management, records management, information technology libraries and archives.

Overseas representation is expected to include delegates from Canada, USA, UK, the Netherlands, Norway, Switzerland, Austria,

Israel, Singapore, Malaysia, Papua New Guinea and New Zealand.

All delegates will receive the proceedings in electronic form on disk after the conference. The proceedings will also be available for sale in electronic or paper form.

If you have not already sent your registration form in, please don't leave it too late. Registrations are filling fast. If you do not have a registration circular, these may be obtained from:

Australian Convention and Travel Services Pty Ltd
GPO Box 2200
Canberra ACT 2601
Telephone: (06) 257 3299
Fax: (06) 257 3256

**The Second Australian Social Research Conference
18-20 January 1995**

The Australian Association for Social Research (AASR) and the Institute of Social Research, University of South Australia, Adelaide, are jointly hosting the Second Australian Research Conference, Wednesday, 18 January to Friday, 20 January, inclusive.

The theme of the conference is **Applying Social Research: Best Practices**. This is in keeping with the AASR constitution, which seeks to "... encourage the development of social research methods and their use for both pure and applied social research issues". We welcome papers dealing with research on both theory and applied aspects of social research and enquiry, as well as papers dealing with methodology issues.

The planning and preparation for the conference is well under way and the organisers have received many enquiries. A feature of the conference will be a special session on the social and economic factors involved in migrant health, which will be supported by the Migrant Health Service. Each day will begin with a plenary session,

followed by two or more streams in parallel. In addition to the conventional presentation of scholarly papers, the organisers will consider various formats of delivery, such as poster presentations and round table discussions. Intending presenters are invited to indicate their preference, but the final decision will rest with the Conference Organising Committee.

The conference dinner will be on Thursday, 19 January.

The conference date has been set to allow delegates (and their families) to explore and enjoy, sometime before or after the conference, the beauties and wonders of South Australia. The wineries of the Barossa Valley, Clare Valley, and McLaren Vale are world famous; Kangaroo Island is within easy reach of Adelaide, and with its wildlife and laid-back holiday atmosphere, is another major tourist attraction. The seaside resorts of Goolwa, Victor Harbour, Robe and tours on the River Murray are easily accessible from Adelaide. In the summer the Adelaide Hills are another delightful area for holiday making. Adelaide has numerous excellent restaurants, and a Casino! Details of tours available will be made available with the conference brochure.

Please contact the address below for further details. If you intend to present a paper please forward an abstract (of no more than 300 words) by **1 November 1994**, preferably in hard copy and disk (stating format) to:

Institute of Social Research
University of South Australia (City Campus)
North Terrace
Adelaide SA 5000
Fax: (08) 302 2213
Phone: (08) 302 2183
email: sskmo@ntx.city.unisa.edu.au

**1995 National Social Policy Conference
5-7 July 1995**

Social Policy and the Challenges of Social Change

Acting on participants' recommendations from last year's conference, we are working hard to

assemble an even better conference for 1995. There will be both Plenary Sessions featuring invited speakers from Australia and overseas, and Special Sessions with a new format which we hope will provide a forum for focused, interactive discussion of the conference theme.

As in previous years, the main feature of the Conference will be a broad range of contributed papers on social policy in contemporary Australia. Previous participants will be relieved to know we are making a special effort to incorporate extra time for discussion at the end of sessions — perhaps you'll get to ask the questions we ran out of time for last year!

We will be calling for papers in the next SPRC Newsletter, which will appear in late November. By then we will have finalised the session themes. For those who want to start writing early, titles and abstracts are due by 31 March 1995.

The conference will be held at the University of New South Wales, Kensington Campus, Sydney.

(The following two conference announcements were taken from Survey Research, Volume 25, Number 3, Summer 1994)

International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality

Call for Papers

The International Conference on Survey Measurement and Process Quality will be held April 1-4, 1995, at the Bristol Marriott, Bristol, U.K. It is sponsored by the American Statistical Association, the International Association of Survey Statisticians, the Market Research Society, and the Royal Statistical Society.

The conference is the latest in a series initiated by the American Statistical Association designed to advance the field of survey methodology. For the first time, the conference is to be held outside the U.S., in recognition of the international contribution to the field. The conference will focus on topics related to quality in survey data collection and subsequent

processing: sources of error, cost-effective approaches to achieving quality, quality measurement and control, and the impact of error on survey data and its analysis. The conference aims to document the current state of the field, to report the findings of new research, and to encourage interdisciplinary and cross-cultural exchange. It will bring survey practitioners together with contributors from a variety of backgrounds: statistics, psychology, business, quality management, and economics. Invited speakers will present the latest research in the field.

Abstracts for contributed papers are sought on the following topics:

- design and specification (e.g. questionnaire design, scales, classification systems, confidentiality issues)
- data collection (e.g. respondent errors, interviewer errors, mode effects, data collection quality measures, new technology and its effect on data quality)
- postsurvey processing and operations (e.g. manual coding errors, automated coding, data entry quality, data editing, process quality improvement, process control systems)
- quality assessment and control (e.g. measures of survey quality, evaluation methods, error models and error analyses, quality profiles, users' perceptions of quality, quality management), and
- error effects on estimation, analyses, and interpretation (e.g. analysis in the presence of errors, program evaluation, error effects on modelling, error presentation)

Approximately 175 contributed papers will be accepted. Send two copies of a one- to two-page abstract to arrive by September 1994, to Lee Decker, Conference Planner, American Statistical Association, 1429 Duke Street, Alexandria, VA 22314-3402 U.S.A. (1-703-684-1221). A \$100 non-refundable fee must accompany the abstract (no purchase orders). Payment must be by cheque in USD on a U.S. bank or by international money order in USD payable to the American Statistical Association.

If the abstract is accepted, this fee will be applied to the conference registration fee. Contributors will be notified of acceptance by October 15. If the abstract is not accepted, the submission fee will be returned.

Organising committee:

Lars Lyberg, Chair, Paul Biemer, Martin Collins, Lee Decker, Edith DeLeeuw, Cathryn Dippe, Norbert Schwarz, Dennis Trewin

Sixth Conference on Health Survey Research Methods

Call for papers

The Sixth Conference on Health Survey Research Methods (CHSRM) will continue the series that began in 1975 to discuss what is known about survey research methodology as it relates to health. The fifth conference was held in 1989. The CHSRM will bring together researchers from various disciplines who are at the forefront of survey methods research, those responsible for major health surveys at the national level, and those who use survey data to develop health policy.

Papers are being solicited in all areas of survey research methods as they relate to health, including but not limited to the following areas:

- cognitive processes of health survey respondents
- questionnaire design strategies and data collection methods for improving the quality of data from children and special populations (e.g. poorly educated, elderly, and culturally diverse respondents)
- strategies for obtaining information on sensitive topics (e.g. AIDS)
- combining data from surveys and other sources
- advances in CASIC (computer-assisted survey information collection) for health surveys
- measuring patient satisfaction and outcomes, mental health, quality of life, health strategies for improving response rates, especially in hard-to-reach populations
- evaluating access to and quality of health

care

- survey needs for emerging health care problems such as AIDS and an aging population, and
- sampling strategies and statistical implications

Participation will be limited to approximately 75 individuals who will present papers, chair sessions, and act as discussants and rapporteurs. Travel and lodging will be covered for all invited participants. The exact dates and location of the conference have not been set. The possible dates are June 3-5, June 24-26, or July 8-10, 1995. The location will be in a western state, most likely Colorado or Utah.

To have a paper considered, send a 500- to 1,000-word abstract to Diane O'Rourke, Survey Research Laboratory, 909 West Oregon Street, Suite 300, Urbana, IL 61801 no later than August 1, 1994. For further information, call 333-4273 (fax 217-244-4408).

Organising committee:

Richard Warnecke, Chair, Univ. of Illinois; Lu Ann Aday, Univ. of Texas at Houston; Richard Campbell, Univ. of Illinois at Chicago; James Chromy, Research Triangle Institute; Marcie Cynamon, National Centre for Health Statistics; Brenda Edwards, National Cancer Institute; Flyod.J.Fowler, Jr., Univ. of Massachusetts-Boston; James Knickman, Robert Wood Johnson Foundation; Richard Kulka, National Opinion Research Centre; James Lepkowski, Univ. of Michigan; Katherine Marconi, Health Resources Services Administration; Nancy Mathiowetz, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research; Owen Thornberry, National Centre for Health Statistics; Deborah Trunzo, Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration; Elinor Walker, Agency for Health Care Policy and Research

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Drop us a line or phone the SSDA
office on (06) 249 4400.

The Australian Association for Social Research ANNUAL CONFERENCE

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Call for Papers

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- The major theme of the conference is the application of social research and the best use of findings.

For Registration Details, please contact:

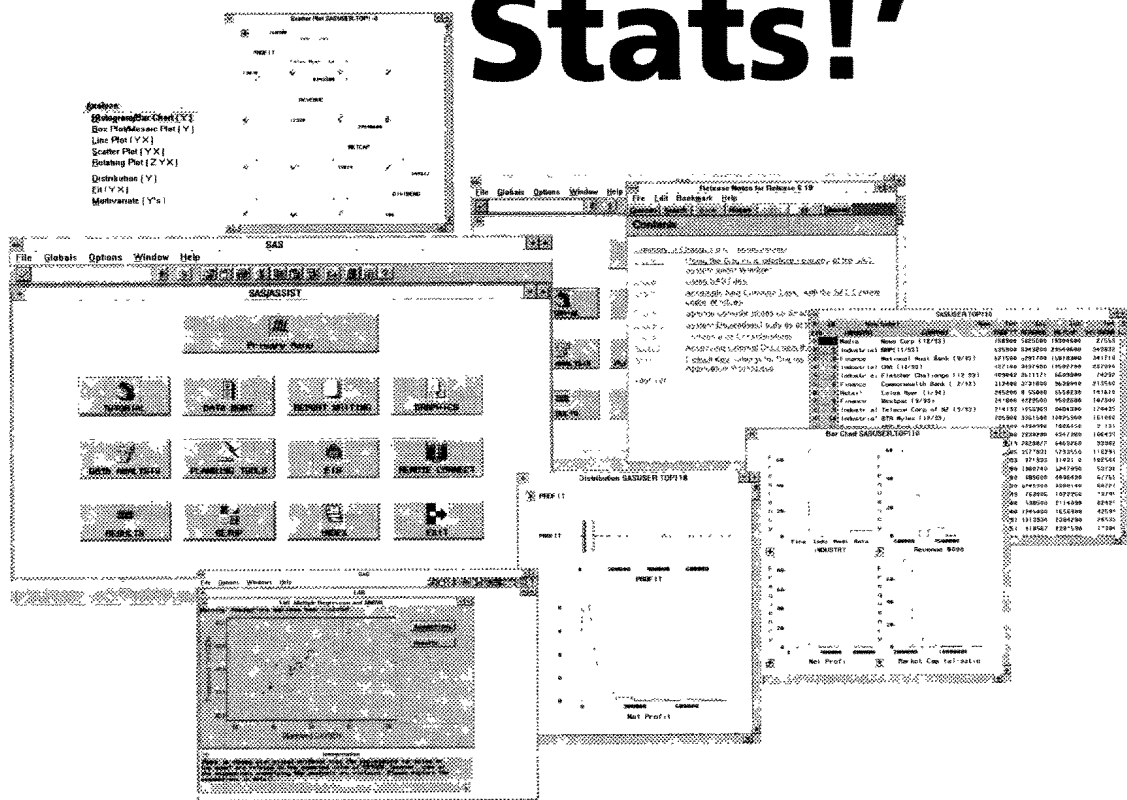
The Secretary
Institute of Social Research
Faculty of Humanities and Social Sciences
University of South Australia
North Terrace
Adelaide SA 5000

Ph: 08 302 2183
Fax: 08 302 2213
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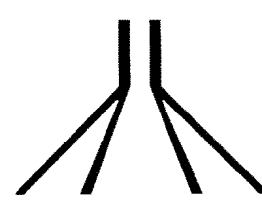
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SSDA News

The SSDA has undergone some personnel changes since the production of the last newsletter. Gina Roach has taken six months' leave and will return in February next year. Readers who have previously dealt with Gina can be helped by Sue Merz who is acting in her position. Sue can be contacted on (06) 249 3809. Val Fisher has joined us as a part-time appointment to fill the new position of ACSPRI Administrative Assistant. The research side of the SSDA has been added to with Melissa Clarkson and Ann Evans joining our undergraduate assistantship scheme. And we have a third undergraduate programmer in Michael Crozier. Our full-time programmer, Karen Ewens, is on secondment until early November. Any programming inquiries will be dealt with by our undergraduate programmers on (06) 249 3859.

Using SSDA Data in Teaching

Helen Bartley & Brian Phillips
School of Mathematical Sciences
Swinburne University of Technology

Background

Statistical educators often advocate the use of real life data as a way of motivating students and showing how statistics are applied in the everyday world. Students may obtain such data in a number of ways including carrying out experiments and surveys, and using data from the daily press. In addition to these sources, there are many datasets which are available and suitable for use in statistics and related courses. One of the main repositories of these datasets is the Social Science Data Archives. Some of these datasets have been used in graduate diploma courses at Swinburne University. This article outlines one of these applications.

Since 1989, the School of Mathematical Sciences at Swinburne University of Technology

has been running graduate courses in Social Statistics, specifically designed for people with non-mathematical backgrounds. Students can do a one year Certificate course, which provides them with basic statistical skills, or a more extensive two year Graduate Diploma. More successful students can extend their studies to a Masters degree by coursework and minor thesis. In 1994, a Graduate Certificate and a Graduate Diploma in Health Statistics were introduced.

Each program commences with introductory subjects in statistics, statistical computing and survey research methods. When they have completed the Graduate Diploma, students should have a good understanding of statistical techniques used in the social/health sciences, a good knowledge of the principles of survey sampling, questionnaire design, demographic techniques and statistical computing. Health Statistics students also receive training in areas related to the health and medical sciences. The courses also provide students with practical experiences in data collection and analysis techniques, report writing and oral presentations.

Most students work in the social or health sciences and allied fields. Their careers include market research, policy analysis, transport planning, social research, nursing, other health professions, and education. Between 30 and 40 commence these courses each year. Many of them have little experience using statistical software or working with data, but have found a need to perform these tasks in their work. Hence an important aspect of the programs is to give students exercises using real world examples.

In their first year, all students undertake a subject called Basic Statistical Computing. The purpose of this subject is to give students the skills and confidence to analyse data using modern statistical software. Part of the assessment, introduced this year, required

students to analyse a set of raw data, then use it to give a class presentation and write a report. Data was obtained from the SSDA for this purpose.

Obtaining the data

SSDA staff assisted in the selection of suitable datasets for students to analyse in a minor project. Ideally we wanted small datasets, around 1000 cases or less, with no more than two or three records per case, so that the data could be easily manipulated and stored on a floppy disk and could be readily analysed within six weeks. We also wanted datasets which included a range of demographic and attitudinal variables, which were of potential interest to the students. Six datasets were purchased for a total cost of \$470 including floppy disks and handling. The names of the datasets are listed at the end of this article.

Prior to the release of any data, the SSDA requires users to enter into an agreement concerning the conditions of use of the data. The agreement with the SSDA was signed by staff on behalf of students. Then each student was asked to sign an agreement consistent with that required by the SSDA. Students were also given a notice stating the conditions of use of the data. In particular we stressed to the students that the data was for use only in their assignments, it was not to be distributed to any other persons, or department within or outside the university, they were to acknowledge the SSDA in their projects and they were responsible for their own findings. Upon submitting their projects, students were required to return the data disks and documentation to minimise the risk that the data would be used for other purposes.

The students' task

Students who worked on this project did so in pairs. Each pair was given a raw data file, the corresponding codebook and questionnaire. Though the SSDA generally provides SPSS or SAS syntax files and frequency distributions with the data, these were deliberately not given to students because it was important that students develop their own programs. No alterations were made to the raw data files

provided to students because we wanted them to discover any possible pitfalls with the data, such as invalid data values and how missing values were treated, and to select only the variables and cases they required.

Students were required to develop their own research questions from the information provided in the codebook and questionnaire, then select up to 20 variables including some demographics and optionally a sample of cases to answer their questions. They were required to analyse the data using either SPSS/PC+ or Microsoft Excel, or both, to describe the main features of the data and come up with questions for further analysis. Students were expected to use descriptive statistics to explore and describe the data. They were also encouraged to be creative through the use of graphical procedures, and other procedures to recode or create new variables.

All students used SPSS/PC+ to carry out the basic analysis of their data. They wrote their own syntax to input the raw data and label the variables. Many selected a subset of cases for analysis, for example females only, rather than analyse the whole dataset. Others recoded variables, such as age and income, to compare groups of respondents and produce cross tabulations and graphs of their results. A few students used features of SPSS, such as multiple response, that were not specifically covered in class. Microsoft Excel was sometimes used to produce better quality graphs than those normally available in SPSS/PC+ or to present their data in tabular form.

Evaluation of the exercise

The initial task of obtaining and preparing the secondary datasets was time consuming. Several weeks lead time were allowed to select and purchase the datasets and prepare copies for students. Once students were given the data the main task of staff was to answer questions about the raw data and help them develop their research questions. Some students had problems reading raw data files, especially when there was more than one line of data per case. Most problems associated with reading the data were due to syntax errors rather than

the structure of the data or the documentation.

Overall, most students who completed the task reported that they had spent a lot of time working on the exercise but felt that it had really helped give them confidence using SPSS and presenting the findings from a survey. They felt that working with real data, and all the associated problems, gave them a deeper understanding in dealing with data in the everyday world. The teamwork aspect of the exercise also significantly contributed to the value of the exercise.

Most reports and presentations were of a high standard. Students showed a clear understanding of the data, including the limitations of their datasets and were able to demonstrate a good understanding of SPSS procedures and applications of Excel.

The project work undertaken by this group of students illustrates one application of the SSDA datasets in teaching students about statistical computing. However the datasets have a far wider application in teaching. For example, in second semester this year the research design of some of the studies will be evaluated as part of a subject on survey methods. The datasets are also used in other parts of the program as sources of data for assignments involving more advanced statistical techniques. Further, other SSDA datasets may form the basis of thesis topics in the future.

Apart from the wide range of applications for SSDA data in teaching applied statistics courses, we can see a more general use for the datasets as a teaching tool. Teachers and lecturers could select datasets relating to the course they are teaching. For example, teachers of politics may find the election poll data useful, while urban geographers might consider some of the housing data held by the archives. We recommend the SSDA as a source of secondary data to any lecturer or teacher looking for data for their students to analyse. We intend to use similar assignments in future years to further exploit this under-utilised resource.

SSDA Datasets

D0480 Community attitudes towards domestic violence, Australia, 1987.

D0484 Gynaecological and sexuality profile of women attending a family planning clinic, Victoria, 1981 - 1982.

D0578 Australian women & economic security, 1988.

D0640 Patient satisfaction and participation in the doctor patient relationship, 1990.

D0626 Alcohol and medication use among older people, 1991.

D0628 Health promotion in the workplace, NSW, 1991.

The 1991 Household Sample File and User's Guide

In the March Newsletter it was announced that the 1991 Census **Household Sample File (HSF)** had been released by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, and could be obtained by academic users for educational and research purposes from the SSDA at a cost of \$2,000. The file is also available for commercial (non-academic) use from the Australian Bureau of Statistics for \$5,000.

In conjunction with the ABS, the SSDA has now prepared a **Household Sample File User's Guide** that is distributed with the 1991 HSF file. The User's Guide, available in printed or machine-readable format, contains classifications and frequency distributions for the HSF file, pertinent sampling error information for estimates produced from the sample, and the HSF 'undertakings', i.e. the license agreement outlining the terms and conditions of the file release. All ACSPRI Representatives of academic member institutions have been sent a copy of the User's Guide, and will be happy to advise academic staff and students as to these conditions and whether a copy of the HSF file has been, or will be, purchased by their institution.

As indicated in the March announcement, the HSF contains information collected at the August 1991 Census from a one percent sample of occupied private dwellings and associated persons, and a one percent sample

of persons in non-private dwellings. The 1991 HSF is hierarchically structured with three record types—dwelling record (N=63,113), family record (N=67,092) and person record (N=168,541)—incorporating 64 variables.

Dwelling record information includes: Dwelling type, Renting, Housing loan repayments, Family type and Household income. Family record information includes: Number of dependents and other offspring, Family income, type and number, Parental income and Location of spouse. The person record includes: Age, Sex, Birthplace, Proficiency in English, Labour force status, Marital status, Religion and Qualifications.

Because of legislative obligations to protect private information, the ABS has restricted the geographic detail of the data. However, in comparison to Household Sample Files from previous Censuses, the 1991 Sample File is a marked improvement. NSW has been divided into seven areas, four of which cover the Sydney division. Victoria is divided into five areas, three covering the Melbourne division. The Adelaide and Perth divisions are identified separately. The remainder of SA and WA have been combined with the NT as one area. Tasmania has been combined with the ACT.

The majority of other classifications remain unchanged or have been modified only slightly. Birthplace of individuals has the top twenty countries identified separately, with the remainder categorised by region. Birthplace of mother and father are categorised by region. Language has the top eighteen languages identified separately, with the remaining languages categorised as "language other than English". Religion has the eleven major Christian denominations identified along with Buddhism, Islam and Judaism. Industry, Qualification, Field of Study and Occupation have been collapsed to the "two digit" level of the classification.

To obtain more information about, or to purchase, the 1991 HSF, contact the ACSPRI Representative at your academic institution, or the Social Science Data Archives, Research

School of Social Sciences, the Australian National University, on (06) 249 4400 (Tel) or (06) 249 4722 (Fax)

Sample Files from Census: 1981 & 1986

The Households Sample File and Persons Sample File from the 1981 Census, as well as the Households Sample File (Section of State) and Households Sample File (States and Territories) from the 1986 Census are now all available from the SSDA. A User's Guide for the newly acquired 1986 HSF (States and Territories) file is currently being prepared.

As part of the SSDA's secondary provider agreement with the ABS, each of the 1981 and 1986 Census Sample files is available at a cost of \$750, of which \$500 goes to the ABS and \$250 to the SSDA. If all four files are ordered, the SSDA will waive its \$250/file, reducing the overall cost to the user from \$3000 to \$2000. Contact the SSDA for more information.

News from the New Zealand Social Research Data Archive (NZSRDA)

The New Zealand Social Science Research Data Archive has recently added some important new services which should significantly benefit its users.

• Firstly, the archive's data holdings catalogue is now available in the Gopher space. The catalogue directory can be accessed at

gopher.massey.ac.nz, port 70.

or

After starting Gopher follow the steps as below:

1. Select Massey University Information
2. Select Massey Research Centres and Units
3. Select New Zealand Social Research Data Archives

(After these steps, the catalogue directory structure is self-explanatory).

• Secondly, the archive has also set up an **electronic listserver mailing list**. This mailing list is a forum for discussion and dissemination

of information relating to local and overseas archives. To become a subscriber to this service send an e-mail message to:

majordomo@massey.ac.nz stating only:
subscribe nzsrda- (list your mail address).

For further information about these new services, or about the NZSRDA, contact:

Henry Barnard
Director
New Zealand Social Research Data Archives
Faculty of Social Sciences
Massey University
Private Bag 11-222
Palmerston North
NEW ZEALAND

Phone: (+6406) 3569099 ext 5354
or: (+6406) 350 5354
Fax: (+6406) 3505627
Email: NZSRDA@massey.ac.nz

News from the ABS

The SSDA regularly receives a number of newsletters and bulletins from State ABS offices, which provide useful background information and discussion on ABS survey activities, new user services and methodological issues such as variable coding. Snippets from these publications are reproduced in the SSDA News for the information of our readers; further information on any of these news items should be obtained directly from ABS offices.

Women's Statistics Unit

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has, over the last five years, played a leading role in establishing specialist statistical units which focus on key economic and social areas. A recent addition to that list is the newly established Women's Statistics Unit.

The Women's Statistics Unit was formally established at the start of the 1994-95 financial year as a joint venture between the ABS and the Office of the Status of Women. The unit will

monitor and evaluate the position and situation of women in Australia with the aim of informing and encouraging debate in the wider community.

The primary function of the Women's Statistics Unit will be to produce an annual Australian Women's Year Book which will include statistics drawn from major social and economic collections. The identification of this principal task arose out of the recent review of the Office of the Status of Women which recommended that an annual Australian Women's Year Book be developed to provide the necessary statistics to monitor and evaluate the progress of the socio-economic status of women.

The ABS had previously worked closely with the Office of the Status of Women in developing the *Women in Australia* (Cat. no. 4113) publication.

The Year Book will provide a consolidated statistical profile of key aspects of women's lives. It will not only aim to measure women's achievements and disadvantages in relation to those of men, but also the status of specific groups of women. It is expected that the first Year Book will be released in December 1994 and will continue to be produced around the end of each calendar year.

The Women's Statistical Unit also has other, more general functions. These include:

- co-ordinating the production of gender specific output from ABS collections and undertaking research into methodological issues related to collecting statistics on women;
- providing statistical advice and conducting statistical analysis on issues of concern to women, including the impact of policy on women;
- contributing statistics and related information about women needed to fulfil Australia's international reporting obligations;
- developing, maintaining and extending statistical indicators to measure and monitor the socio-economic status and progress of Australian women; and

- co-ordinating requests to the ABS for collection of additional data relating to women and preparing proposals to collect that data.

Information about the Women's Statistical Unit can be obtained by contacting Norma Briscoe, ABS Canberra on (06) 252 7088.

Income and Housing Costs Surveys

Significant changes to the way the Australian Bureau of Statistics collects income and housing costs have recently been implemented. The Income and Housing Costs Surveys collect information about current income, and income for the previous financial year as well as data on the socio-demographic characteristics of the household and major housing costs.

Information about the level and distribution of income has always been regarded as amongst the most important social statistics produced by the ABS. Income statistics, for example, are used to develop changes to Australia's income security and taxation policies and to monitor their effects. They have also been used to study the distribution of income and to analyse the relationship between levels of income and labour force participation.

In the last 20 years, surveys of income have been conducted about every four years, the last being conducted in 1990, and were generally run over a three-month period. Unfortunately, and purely by coincidence, none of the surveys were conducted during times of economic downturn so that the effects of economic fluctuations on income distribution were not adequately tracked.

From July 1994, however, information about the level and sources of income of Australian households will be collected on a continuous basis (monthly) and for an indefinite period. Each month, information will be collected from about 650 households — in this way over 7,500 households will be surveyed during each twelve-month period.

Benefits

Significant advantages for users of income statistics will come from the new methodology including:

- more frequent and timely estimates;
- increased data — as the survey respondents will already be participants in the Labour Force Survey, the income data will be complemented by the availability of a wider range of labour force data;
- greater sample size — over three years (the minimum time between past surveys) the sample size will be 50 per cent greater than that used in the 1990 survey. Statistical techniques will be used to produce more detailed income estimates for small population groups such as pensioners and the unemployed; and
- longer reference period — current income data will be collected each month so not only will the estimates avoid seasonal bias, but the effects of seasonal difference can also be analysed.

Statistical information for 1994-95 will be published at the national and state levels in December 1995. Estimates will cover both current and annual income, by source of income and major housing costs.

If you would like to know more about income and housing statistics, you can contact Harry Kroon, Director of the Housing Income and Expenditure Section, ABS Canberra on (06) 252 6098.

How Australians Use Their Time - Selected Findings from the 1992 Time Use Survey, Australia

The Time Use Survey contains a selection of mainly national level data on the time Australians spend in activities such as paid work, unpaid household work and shopping, caring for children and frail, sick and disabled people, community participation, education, leisure and personal maintenance. Data was derived from interviews with usual residents of private households aged 15 years and above.

Also available from the Survey is a package comprising a unit record file on magnetic tape, a Technical Information Paper and a User's Guide. For further information about the survey, please telephone Elisabeth Davis, on (06) 252 6768.

National Crime Statistics

This is the first of a half-yearly publication designed to provide uniform national crime statistics relating to a selected range of offences that have become known to and recorded by police. National crime statistics are compiled on a victim basis and measures the number of victims for each offence category rather than the breaches of criminal law. This publication contains a breakdown of the offence category by month reported, as well as type of location and use of weapon data. As the national collection progressively expands, future publications will provide additional details on reported offences. For more information, contact Jude Barbeta on (03) 615 7370.

Crime and Safety, Australia

Crime and Safety, Australia is the first release of data from the 1993 National Crime and Safety survey. This survey collected information from the general population, and therefore provides insight into both reported and unreported crime, in addition to victim profiles. The survey includes details on household break-ins and motor vehicle theft, personal robberies, assaults and some data on sexual assaults, in the twelve months prior to the survey. Additional data includes information on the last incident and whether it was reported to the police, and selected victimisation risk factors. Data are classified by selected demographic characteristics, and some state/territory data is included.

Crime and Safety, Australia will be a vital resource for those in planning strategies against crime and provide insight to those examining the impact of crime on particular population groups. Contact Bernard Wong on (02) 268 4238 for more information.

Australian Social Trends, 1994

Australian Social Trends is a new comprehensive statistical profile of contemporary Australian society which offers the latest findings on such topics as:

- population- fertility, emigration, the aged;
- families- lone fathers, living arrangements, child care;
- health- youth suicide, tobacco use, private health insurance;
- work- unpaid household work, early retirement, union membership trends;
- income- earnings distribution, social security payments;
- religion- marriage, education, trends.

In addition, there are over 150 key social indicators, presented in national and state tables, plus international comparisons for 18 countries.

Further information about recent releases from the ABS can be obtained in the latest issue of "What Figures", a free quarterly publication produced by the bureau's Corporate Marketing Section. To be placed on the mailing list for the magazine, contact Kathy Garton (marketing manager) at: PO Box 10, Belconnen ACT 2616. Phone (06) 252 7577, fax (06) 251 3352.

Recent Additions to SSDA Holdings

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 (Access Category not determined)

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.

Additions to Series

The SSDA's holdings include data from a number of important long-term survey programs, among which is the Australian Longitudinal Survey, incorporating the Australian Youth Survey. The SSDA has previously announced the addition to our holdings of the 1992 Australian Youth Survey (AYS). Now, a complete User's Guide is available for this important study.

Other Additions

Department of Demography, RSSS, Australian National University, , **Census of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate** (SSDA No. 768)

The 1970 Census of the British Solomon Islands Protectorate was the first Census which enumerated the entire protectorate. The Census covers family structure, fertility, ethnicity, education, migration (from place of birth), and religion.

Lea Petrovic, University of Newcastle **General Practitioners' Referrals and Investigations** (SSDA No. 779)

The rate at which General Practitioners (GPs) refer patients to specialists and order pathology tests and imaging varies considerably between individual GPs. This study examines patterns of and reasons for referral, pathology and imaging in a group of randomly selected general practitioners in the Hunter Valley.

The doctors who agreed to participate in the study were asked to sign a consent form and fill in a demographic questionnaire, which included questions about sex, age, postgraduate qualifications, years in practice, size of practice and practice characteristics. Every doctor was provided with a recording booklet based on one used by the Birmingham Research Unit of the Royal College of General Practitioners. The booklet was designed to record information about the patients age, sex and, if applicable, details of referral, type of investigation and reason for ordering the investigation.

Ben Kerkvliet, Political & Social Change, RSPacS, ANU, **ICP/BAEcon Socioeconomic Study among Rice Farmers of Nueva Ecija, Philippines, 1970-1971** (SSDA No. 781)

This study investigated the attitudes of Nueva Ecijan rice farmers and their landlords regarding various aspects of agricultural politics. In particular, the study focused on respondents' perceptions of the qualities necessary in an ideal landlord, lessee tenant, share tenant, overseer, farm management technician, and leader of farmers' organisation. Conversely, respondents were also asked to identify or rank common failings of imperfect members of the aforementioned role categories. In addition, farmers were asked to rank the importance of selected reasons for their wanting or not wanting a farmers' organisation in their barrio residences. Farmers also ranked selected quality-of-life items in order of their perceived concordance with the idea of a "good life".

Background variables included farmer tenure status or landlord type, area of house and lot, size of barrio, and irrigation status of barrio.

Access Category: A

Department of Statistics, Indonesia, **Indonesian Annual manufacturing surveys for medium and large scale industries, Backcasted data: 1975-1991** (SSDA No. 782)

For years observers of the Indonesian economy have struggled to obtain a clear picture of the development of the manufacturing sector, believed to be the fastest growing sector in the economy. Its non-oil component, which covers the largest share of value added, is dominated by medium and large establishments. The published figures for the number of these establishments show a stepwise growth between 1975 and 1990, with sharp increases in 1985, 1988 and 1990. The true cause of these increases were changes in field procedures: in 1985 BPS undertook a door-to-door enumeration of such establishments, and in 1988 and 1990 substantial improvements in these procedures were introduced.

BPS decided to correct this apparent undercoverage by backcasting the history of establishments added to the Annual Survey one or more years after they had started commercial production. It was recognised that the benefit of creating a consistent panel data set for medium and large establishments goes beyond providing a more reliable picture of the development of the manufacturing sector as a whole. Such a data set would undoubtedly provide the base for assessing potential effects of various government policies at the sub-sectoral as well as the firm level.

The backcast exercise was undertaken in several stages including : a) cleaning data for many large establishments; b) conducting two special surveys to obtain reliable information on the true year commercial production began as well as the establishment's employment history; c) estimating an employment series for non-surveyed establishments based on the behaviour of surveyed establishments; d) estimating outputs and inputs for surveyed and non-surveyed establishments; and finally e) adding an aggregate adjustment for undercoverage in the terminal years of the period under consideration.

Access Category: B

Peter McDonald, Australian Institute of Family Studies, **Indonesian Marriage Survey: Adults, 1978** (SSDA No. 783)

A study of marriage behaviour and patterns was undertaken in Indonesia to elicit information from peoples representing eight separate cultural groups on their behaviour and attitudes in respect of marriage in association with their life experience, exposure to new ideas and involvement in structural changes in society. This survey concentrates on the attitudes of Indonesian adults. A similar study concentrating on adolescents is also held by the SSDA (771).

Respondents were asked about marriage, divorce, re-marriage and child bearing; decision making within marriage; and interaction between men and women in their village. Opinions were sought on sex before marriage, what ages a man and a woman were considered too old or too young to get married, choice of marriage partner, polygamy, family planning, bride price, and whether a married woman should be allowed to work. Other variables include whether the respondent had ever been pressed to marry, details on leisure activities and religious issues.

Background variables include geographic location, sex, economic index of household, year of birth, age, highest education level achieved, occupation, religion and marital status.

Access Category : A

Drug and Alcohol Directorate, NSW Department of Health, **Drug Use Among Secondary School Students, New South Wales, 1992** (SSDA No. 784)

This survey is the fourth in a triennial series started in 1983 to monitor trends in drug use among secondary school students in NSW. The objectives of the survey series are; to provide reliable data on prevalence and other aspects of student drug use, to monitor patterns and changes in the prevalence of adolescent drug use and to evaluate the effectiveness of drug education initiatives and social policy. The survey consisted of three parts. The core

section was completed by all respondents, and the tobacco section (group A) and alcohol and legislation section (group B) were each completed by approximately half the respondents. The core section included demographic information such as age, year at school, area of residence, household members, parents' country of birth and language spoken at home. It also included prevalence items for nine groups of drugs; the substance types covered were alcohol, tobacco, pain killers (analgesics), cannabis, inhalants (solvents and aerosols), sedatives, stimulants, hallucinogens and narcotics.

The tobacco version consisted of questions relating to the messages of the 1992 Rock Eisteddfod and the 'hook' ad campaign, frequency of tobacco use, significant others that smoke, ways of obtaining cigarettes, attitudes about smoking, quitting smoking and lessons on smoking at school.

The alcohol and legislation version consisted of questions relating to attitudes about alcohol, obtaining alcohol, penalties for buying alcohol and cigarettes underage, perceived likelihood of being caught buying alcohol and cigarettes underage, and attitudes towards obtaining cigarettes and alcohol illegally.

Access Category: t.b.a.

Anna Lee, Department of Anaesthetics and Intensive Care, Liverpool Hospital, **Substance Abuse in Intensive Care Unit/Coronary Care Unit Admissions, 1992** (SSDA No. 785)

This study was conducted over a three month period and was designed to determine the proportion of admissions and lengths of stay attributed to substance abuse in an Intensive Care (ICU) and a Coronary Care (CCU) unit.

Principle diagnoses leading to admission were classified and aetiological fractions were used to estimate the proportion of admissions and bed days which could be attributed to tobacco, alcohol and other drug use.

The survey asked the frequency of tobacco, alcohol and illicit drug use. Questions were also

asked concerning the number of packs of cigarettes smoked per day, and the number of grams of alcohol consumed per day.

Access Category: B

Overseas Acquisitions

ICPSR 7757 - Candidate and Constituency Statistics of Elections in the United States, 1788-1988

These data are derived from the Candidate Name and Constituency Totals, 1788-1988 (ICPSR 0002). They consist of returns for two-thirds of all elections from 1788 to 1823 to the offices of President, governor, and United States Representative, and over ninety percent of all elections to those offices since 1824. They also include information on United States Senate elections since 1912. Returns for one additional state-wide office are included beginning with the 1968 election. This file provides a set of derived measures describing the vote totals for candidates and the pattern of contest in each constituency. These measures include the total number of votes cast for all candidates in the election, each candidate's percentage of the vote received, and several measures of the relative performance of each candidate. They are appended to the individual candidate records, and permit extensive analysis of electoral contests over time. This dataset also contains returns for all parties and candidates (as well as scattering vote) for general elections and special elections, including information on elections for which returns were available only at the constituency level. The universe sampled included: candidates who ran for the offices of President, governor, and United States representative (1824-1988), United States senator (1912-1988), and one additional state-wide office, usually attorney general or secretary of state (1968-1988).

ICSPR 8101 - Census of Population and Housing, 1980: Public Use Microdata Sample (A Sample): 5 Percent Sample

The Public Use Microdata Samples (PUM) from the 1980 Census contain individual- and

household-level information from the "long-form" questionnaires distributed to a sample of the population enumerated in the Census. Three different PUM series have been prepared, one of these being ICPSR 8108, the A Sample.

Sample A data, containing 5 percent data, contains two types of records: "household" records and "person" records. Each person record has a logical relationship to the household record that precedes it.

Every State and most individual counties with 100,000 or more inhabitants (350 in all) are identified in the data. In many cases, individual cities or groups of places with 100,000 or more inhabitants are also identified. The remaining territory has been subdivided into county groups.

The data are available in 51 data files corresponding to the individual states plus the District of Columbia. In addition, County Group Equivalency files include a record for each county and identify the county group of which the county is a part.

ICPSR 9952 - Census of Population and Housing, 1990 (United States): Public Use Microdata Sample: 5-Percent Sample

The Public Use Microdata Sample (PUMS) 5-Percent Sample contains household and person records for a sample of housing units that received the "long form" of the 1990 Census questionnaire. Data items include the full range of population and housing information collected in the 1990 Census, including 500 occupation categories, age by single years up to 90, and wages in dollars up to \$140,000. Each person identified in the sample has an associated household record, containing information on household characteristics such as type of household and family income

ICPSR Additions

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins of February and May 1994. Datasets are not currently held by the SSDA,

but may be ordered from ICPSR on request. Contact the SSDA for more details.

American National Election Panel Study: Full Panel Survey, 1990-1992 (ICPSR 6230)

American National Election Study: Panel Study on Securing Electoral Success, 1992-1993/1993 Pilot Study (ICPSR 6264)

Monitoring the Future: A Continuing Study of the Lifestyles and Values of Youth, 1992 (ICPSR 6133)

Monitoring the Future: A Continuing Study of the Lifestyles and Values of Youth, 1976-1992: Concatenated Core File (ICPSR 6227)

Census of Population and Housing Studies: 1990 (United States): Summary Tape File 44 (ICPSR 6117); 1990 (United States): Subject Summary Tape Files SSTF 1, The Foreign-born Population in the United States (ICPSR 6211); SSTF 2, Ancestry of the Population of the United States (ICPSR 6213)

Current Population Surveys: June 1992: Fertility and Birth Expectations (ICPSR 6186); Annual Demographic File, 1993 (ICPSR 6244); Uniform October Files, 1968-1990 (ICPSR 6126)

American Housing Survey, MSA Core File, 1991 (ICPSR 6188)

Consolidated Federal Funds Report (CFFR), Fiscal Year 1992 (ICPSR 6187)

Euro-barometer 35.0: Foreign Relations, the Common Agricultural Policy, and Environmental Concerns, Spring 1991 (ICPSR 9697)

European Election Study, 1989 (ICPSR 6148)

German Election Studies: Panel Study, 1990 (ICPSR 6192); 1990 (ICPSR 6189); Politbarometer East (ICPSR 6193)

Consumer Expenditure Surveys, 1980-1989; Interview Surveys, for Household-level Analysis (ICPSR 9851)

National Health Interview Survey, 1984: Supplement on Aging, Medicare Data, 1984-1991 (ICPSR 6256)

National Medical Expenditure Surveys, 1987: Household Survey, Expenditures, Sources of Payment, and Population Data (Public Use Tape 18), (ICPSR 6247); Survey of American Indians and Alaska Natives, Preliminary Ambulatory Medical Visit Data (Public Use Tape 23.5P) (ICPSR 6221); Survey of American Indians and Alaska Natives, Preliminary Data on Home Health Care, Medical Equipment Purchases and Rentals, and Traditional Medicine (Public Use Tape 23.2P (ICPSR 6251); Survey of American Indians and Alaska Natives, Preliminary Dental Visit Data (Public Use Tape 23.3P)

(ICPSR 6226)

National Corrections Reporting Program, 1990 (ICPSR 6141)

Survey of Inmates of Federal Correctional Facilities, 1991 (ICPSR 6037)

Exploring the House Burglar's Perspective: Observing and Interviewing Offenders in St. Louis, 1989-1990 (ICPSR 6148)

Improving the Investigation of Homicide and the Apprehension Rate of Murderers in Washington State, 1981-1986 (ICPSR 6134)

Juvenile Court Statistics: (United States), 1987 (ICPSR 6119), 1988 (ICPSR 6120), 1989 (ICPSR 6121)

Modern Policing and the Control of Illegal Drugs: Testing New Strategies in Oakland, California, and Birmingham, Alabama, 1987-1989 (ICPSR 9962)

Prejudice and Violence in the American Workplace, 1988-1991: Survey of an Eastern Corporation (ICPSR 6135)

ABC News Polls: Bosnia Poll, May 1993 (ICPSR 6185); Clinton Economy Speech Poll, February 1993 (ICPSR 6180); Hillary Clinton Poll, February 1993 (ICPSR 6183); Iraq Attack Poll, January 1993 (ICPSR 6176); Waco/Koresh Poll, April 1993 (ICPSR 6184)

ABC News/NHK Japan Poll, February 1993 (ICPSR 6182)

ABC News/WASHINGTON POST Polls: Baird Nomination Quick Poll, January 1993 (ICPSR 6177); Gays in the Military Poll, January 1993 (ICPSR 6178); State of the Union Poll, February 1993 (ICPSR 6179); Monthly Polls: January 1993 (ICPSR 6175); February 1993 (ICPSR 6181)

CBS News/NEW YORK TIMES Polls- Monthly Polls: January 1993 (ICPSR 6197); #1, March 1993 (ICPSR 6200); #2, March 1993 (ICPSR 6201); #1, May 1993 (ICPSR 6202); #2 May 1993 (ICPSR 6204); June 1993 (ICPSR 6205)

CBS News Los Angeles Polls, 1993: January (ICPSR 6198); February (ICPSR 6207)

Voter Research and Surveys New Jersey Guernatorial Election Exit Poll, 1993 (ICPSR 6248)

Voter Research and Surveys New York City Mayoral Election Exit Poll, 1993 (ICPSR 6249)

Washington Post Capital Hill Polls: Men in the Workplace (ICPSR 6174), January 1993; Women in the Workplace (ICPSR 6173)

WCBS-TV News/NEW YORK TIMES New York City Poll, May 1993 (ICPSR 6203)

Dictionary of Occupational Titles (DOT): Revised Fourth Edition, 1991 (ICPSR 6100)

National Survey of Families and Households, 1987-1988 (ICPSR 6041)

Occupational Changes in a Generation, 1962 and 1973 (ICPSR 6162)

Survey of Men Employed in Civilian Occupations in the United States, 1964 (ICPSR 9242)

Correlates of War Project: International and Civil War Data, 1816-1992 (ICPSR 9905)

Great Power Wars, 1495-1815 (ICPSR 9955)

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 1990: Drug Mentions (ICPSR 6298)

Multiple Cause of Death, 1989 (ICPSR 6257)

Epidemiologic Catchment Area Study (United States), 1980-1985 (ICPSR 6153)

Small Business Benefits Study (SBBS) (Denver, Flint, Tampa, and Tucson), 1990 (ICPSR 6002)

Deinstitutionalisation of Status Offenders: A Study of Intervention Practices for Youth in Seven Cities in the United States, 1987-1991 (ICPSR 6039)

Evaluating Alternative Police Responses to Spouse Assault in Colorado Springs: An Enhanced Replication of the Minneapolis Experiment, 1987-1989 (ICPSR 9982)

Reexamining the Minneapolis Repeat Complaint Address Policing (Recap) Experiment, 1986-1987 (ICPSR 6172)

Evaluation of the Impact of Innovative Policing Programs on Social Disorder in Seven Cities in the United States, 1983-1990 (ICPSR 6215)

Evaluation of the Maricopa County (Arizona) Demand Reduction Program, 1989-1991 (ICPSR 9977)

Expenditure and Employment Data for the Criminal Justice System (United States): Extract File, 1991 (ICPSR 6259)

National Prosecutors Survey, 1992 (ICPSR 6273)

National Justice Agency List, 1992 (6228)

Center for Research on Social Reality (Spain) Surveys: January 1993: Supranational Identification (ICPSR 6266); February 1993: Family and the Use of Time (ICPSR 6268); March 1993: Attitudes Toward Immigrants (ICPSR 6267); October 1993: Daily Life (ICPSR 6301); December 1993: Attitudes and Behaviour Regarding Alcohol, Tobacco, and Drugs (ICPSR 6303)