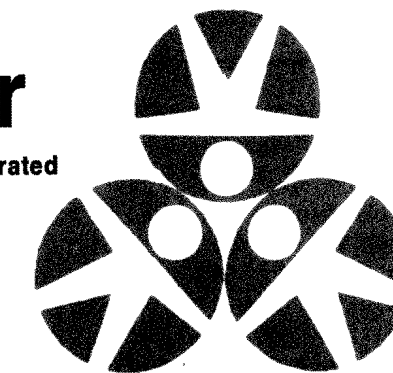


- National Crime Victimization Survey, 1992-1994 (ICPSR 6406)
- National Health Interview Survey, 1994 (ICPSR 6724)
- National Home and Hospice Care Survey, 1994 (ICPSR 6733)
- National Justice Agency List, 1995 (ICPSR 6726)
- National Medical Expenditure Survey, 1987: Institutional Population Component, Health Care Provider Utilization Data From the Institutional Use and Expenditure Questionnaire for Residents of Nursing and Personal Care Homes and Facilities for Persons With Mental Retardation [Research File 28R] (ICPSR 6732)
- National Opinion Survey of Crime and Justice, 1995 (ICPSR 6720)
- National Survey of Black Americans, Waves 1-4, 1979-1980, 1987-1988, 1988-1989, 1992 (ICPSR 6668)
- National Survey of Self-Care and Aging: Baseline, 1990-1991 (ICPSR 6718)
- Panel Study of Voluntary Associations in Ten Towns in Nebraska, 1983-1989 (ICPSR 9829)
- Police and Child Abuse: Policies and Practices in the United States, 1987-1988 (ICPSR 6338)
- Quiet Revolution in the South: The Impact of the Voting Rights Act, 1965-1990 [Alabama, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Texas, Virginia] (ICPSR 6646)
- Role of Police Psychology in Controlling Excessive Force in 50 Large Cities in the United States, 1992 (ICPSR 6402)
- Schools and Staffing Survey, 1993-1994: [United States] (ICPSR 6753)
- State Risk Pool Utilization and Cost Data, 1988-1991: [Connecticut, Florida, Minnesota, Nebraska, Washington, and Wisconsin] (ICPSR 6794)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, January 1992 (ICPSR 6768)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, February 1992 (ICPSR 6769)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, March 1992 (ICPSR 6770)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, April 1992 (ICPSR 6771)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, May 1992 (ICPSR 6772)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, June 1992 (ICPSR 6773)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, July 1992 (ICPSR 6774)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, August 1992 (ICPSR 6775)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, September 1992 (ICPSR 6776)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, October 1992 (ICPSR 6777)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, November 1992 (ICPSR 6778)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, December 1992 (ICPSR 6779)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, January 1993 (ICPSR 6756)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, February 1993 (ICPSR 6757)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, March 1993 (ICPSR 6758)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, April 1993 (ICPSR 6759)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, May 1993 (ICPSR 6760)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, June 1993 (ICPSR 6761)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, July 1993 (ICPSR 6762)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, August 1993 (ICPSR 6763)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, September 1993 (ICPSR 6764)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, October 1993 (ICPSR 6765)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, November 1993 (ICPSR 6766)
- Survey of Consumer Attitudes and Behavior, December 1993 (ICPSR 6767)
- Survey of Drug Enforcement Tactics of Law Enforcement Agencies in the United States, 1992 (ICPSR 6506)
- Three-Generation National Survey of Black American Families, 1979-1981 (ICPSR 9288)
- Uniform Crime Reports [United States]: Supplementary Homicide Reports, 1976-1994 (ICPSR 6754)
- Victims and Witnesses in Milwaukee County, Wisconsin: Impact of Crime and Experience With the Criminal Justice System, 1974-1975 (ICPSR 6369)
- "Your Child's Teeth" Project, 1991-1993: [New York City] (ICPSR 6578)

# ACSPRI newsletter

Australian Consortium for Social and Political Research Incorporated

Number 35, March 1997 ISSN 0158-6882



*incorporating*

## SSDA news

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

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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 by e-mail to [ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au)

This issue of the Newsletter was edited by Toni Greaves and Sue Trevenar.

This issue of the ACSPRI Newsletter/SSDA News features information about the next Winter Program to be held in Perth. We have an article from Lyn Richards on the changing face of computer software for qualitative research. We also preview the intended release of the 1995 AWIRS data, and give a description of the release of some ABS Census Tables to the SSDA.

Details of the latest SSDA data releases, as well as those from other overseas archives, and updates to our Online Analysis service (OASISS) and growing bookshelf of online User's guides are included. We also have the report on the 1997 Summer Program, notices of upcoming conferences and Summer Programs, SSDA staff changes, and 'News from the ABS'.

## ACSPRI Activities

### ACSPRI Membership News

The **University of Ballarat** has joined ACSPRI, becoming the Consortium's 45th member. Dr **John McDonald**, of the School of Behavioural & Social Sciences & Humanities, will act as Ballarat's Representative on the ACSPRI Council. His telephone number is 053 5327 9629 and fax number is 053 5327 9840.

Dr **David Maunders**, of the Department of Community Services, is the new ACSPRI Representative from the Royal Melbourne Institute of Technology. David's telephone number is 03 9353 9261 and his fax number is 03 9350 2484.

The Australian Bureau of Statistics has announced that Mr **Dick Crockett**, Assistant Secretary, Client Services, is its new ACSPRI Representative. His telephone number is 06 252 7157 and his fax number is 06 253 1093.

Dr **Ching Choi**, Head, Welfare Division, is the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare's new Representative. Ching's telephone number is 06 244 1197 and his fax number is 06 244 1199.

Mr **Rodney Inder**, Assistant Secretary, Research and Statistics Branch, is to be the ACSPRI Representative for the Department of Immigration

and Multicultural Affairs, now that the Bureau of Immigration, Multicultural and Population Research has been dismantled. Rodney's telephone number is 06 264 1750 and his fax number is 06 264 3780.

A current, complete list of ACSPRI's 36 academic and 9 government members, with contact details for their Representatives, may be found on <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/members.html>.

As of 1 July 1996, the Joining Fee for new (or rejoining) members of ACSPRI is \$500. The annual subscription remains \$970.

### 1997 ACSPRI Winter Program in Perth

ACSPRI, in conjunction with the UWA's Faculty of Economics and Commerce, Education and Law, will be conducting its fourth annual **Winter Program** in Social Research Methods and Research Technology at the **University of Western Australia** during the week of **30 June to 4 July 1997**.

The Winter Program, modelled on the annual ACSPRI Summer Program, will provide courses of equivalent quality and cost to participants. Courses to be offered are:

- Introduction to Statistics;
- Data Analysis in SPSS;
- Data Analysis in SAS;
- Qualitative Research Techniques;
- Fundamentals of Multiple Regression;
- Applied Regression Analysis;
- Introduction to Structural Equation Modelling (LISREL and AMOS);
- Applied Logistic Regression;
- Multilevel Structural Equation Modelling with MLn and LISREL.

Comprehensive information about the July ACSPRI Winter Program, including course fees, individual course descriptions and application forms, is provided in the **Winter Program Course Booklet**, available on the SSDA WWW pages (<http://ssda.anu.edu.au/acspri/courses/winter>), or from ACSPRI-WP97, Social Science Data Archives, Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University, Canberra ACT 0200; tel. 06 249 4400; fax. 06 249 4722; email: [ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au).

## The 1997 ACSPRI Summer Program

Co-hosted by the Faculties and the Research School of Social Sciences, ACSPRI's 13th Summer Program in Social Research Methods and Research Technology was held at the Australian National University from 27 January through 7 February.

As at previous ANU based Programs, computer facilities and support were provided by the Teaching and Learning Technology Support Unit (TLTSU), and lecture rooms and other venues were made available by the Faculties and the ANU Union, which catered morning/afternoon tea and the special, ACSPRI hosted, Australia Day Lunch.

Twenty week-long courses (see table below) were conducted during the two week Program, including three that were offered for the first time: Advanced Qualitative Research Methods; Educational Testing and Measurement (IRT); and a 3-Day Workshop on Practical Correspondence Analysis.

Week 1 Course	N
Applied Logistic Regression	17
Fundamentals of Multiple Regression	18
Improving Survey Research Design	28
Intro. to SEM (LISREL & AMOS)	19
Introduction to Statistics	20
Longitudinal Analysis of Panel Data	14
Multilevel Analysis with MLn	14
Overview of Program Evaluation	13
Principal Comp. & Factor Analysis	17
Qualitative Research Techniques	21
Strategies of Policy Analysis	15
Week 2 Course/Workshop	
Advanced Qualitative Res. Meth.	14
Advanced SEM (LISREL)	12
Applied Regression Analysis	20
Categorical Data (Log-linear Models)	15
Data Analysis in SAS	16
Data Analysis in SPSS	21
Educ. Testing & Measurement (IRT)	11
Sampling Theory and Practice	18
Practical Correspondence Analysis	14

In terms of overall attendance, the 1997 Program was ACSPRI's second largest, with a total of 282 participants; in terms of courses attended, it was the largest, with a total of 337 courses taken over the two week Program—slightly less than 200 individuals attended courses during the first, and 141 during the second week (55 participated both weeks). Compared to that at the 1996 Summer Program (of 18 courses), 1997 attendance was 9%

higher, though average course enrolment (14) did not change. Thirty percent of all participants had attended one or more previous Programs (and, of these, 68% attended in 1996).

Over 60% of all participants were from outside the ACT, with 90% coming from NSW (75), Victoria (48) and Queensland (33), and over 83% were from ACSPRI member institutions.

Academic members accounted for 66% of total participation, with academics from NSW (55), Victoria (43), ACT (39) and Queensland (33) contributing 92%. Universities with five or more representatives included: the Australian Catholic University (29), the University of Western Sydney (19), the ANU (15), the University of Melbourne (15), the University of Sydney (11), the University of Canberra (9), the University of New South Wales (8), the University of Queensland (8), Charles Sturt University (7), Swinburne University of Technology (7), the University of Western Australia (6), and Deakin University (5). Overall, there were 44 full-time, post-graduate students at the Program (down 4 from 1996), nearly half of whom took courses both weeks.

Government member institutions sent 23 fewer participants to the 1997 Program than to the previous Summer Program, but representation from the Australian Bureau of Statistics (25), the Department of Employment, Education, Training and Youth Affairs (16), and the Australian Institute of Health and Welfare (9) either remained constant or increased. Other (non-member) institutions sending three or more participants included the Australian Taxation Office (8), Roy Morgan Research (5), and AGB McNair, the Department of Social Security, the Department of Defence, and the NSW Department of School Education with 3 each.

The 1997 Summer Program was the fifth in succession to be held in Canberra, and was nearly identical in size to the 1993 Program (see table below). Over the five year period, however, Program participation by state and sector changed markedly. Whereas in 1993 over half of all participants came from the ACT, in 1997 nearly two-thirds came from interstate, and participation from academic institutions in NSW and Victoria increased by over 90%. During the same period, participation from ACT based government members declined by 44% (though there was no decline in non-member participation). These figures should help allay concerns that a centrally located, permanently based Summer Program (in Canberra) would tend to be dominated by local public servants (who contributed nearly 65% of the participants at the 1990 Summer Program at the ANU).

	1993	1994	1995	1996	1997
	%	%	%	%	%
ACT	54	46	41	45	38
NSW	15	20	30	25	27
VIC	8	12	15	15	17
Oth. States	23	20	12	15	18
Academic	49	56	56	59	66
(N)	(283)	(274)	(208)	(259)	(282)

ACSPRI is again grateful to its staff and those of the SSDA, RSSS and the Faculties for their courteous and efficient support during all phases of the Program. It also extends its customary special thanks to Summer Program instructors for their excellent teaching, and to all in attendance for their participation in the Program.

## Managing Electronic Messages as Records

Australian Archives has now made the following document available on its web site: "Managing electronic messages as records" and it can be accessed at: [http://www.aa.gov.au/AA\\_WWW/AA\\_Issues/EMcontents.HTM](http://www.aa.gov.au/AA_WWW/AA_Issues/EMcontents.HTM).

The purpose of this document is to establish a policy and provide guidelines for the management of electronic messages as records within the Commonwealth Government sector.

This policy establishes that stored electronic messages derived from Commonwealth Government business transactions are records and outlines how they should be managed. In establishing that electronic messages are records the policy also establishes a requirement to retain electronic messages in record keeping systems for as long as they are required by the Commonwealth and the community.

The purpose of the guideline, which follows the policy, is to enable agencies to comply with the Policy on Managing Electronic Messages as Records. The guidelines are designed to complement the policy.

O'Shea, Greg. [gregos@aa.gov.au]. "Managing Electronic Messages as Records." In CIRG-L. [cirg-l@nla.gov.au]. 27 February 1997.

## ICPSR Announces Electronic Documentation Initiatives

### PDF

In recent years ICPSR has distributed an increasingly wide variety of formats for electronic documentation—several word processor formats, OSIRIS, straight ASCII, formatted ASCII, etc. This has proved to be a very mixed blessing for both users and the ICPSR staff.

Over the next three years, ICPSR plans to consolidate on a single format for the majority of its electronic technical documentation: Portable Document Format files (PDF files), which can be read by the Adobe Acrobat Reader software and by several other software packages. ICPSR provides access to the Reader on the ICPSR Website and on CD-ROMs containing PDF documentation.

Where possible, ICPSR will retrofit older forms of electronic documentation into PDF format.

As an added benefit of adopting the PDF format, ICPSR will - for the first time - be able to archive documents exactly as it received them.

ICPSR will be closely monitoring the usage of PDF documents by the research community. As always, feedback on this new format would be appreciated.

### SGML

As previously announced, ICPSR is also assisting in the development of a standard for SGML markup of codebooks, known as the Data Documentation Initiative (DDI), and will be distributing some codebooks in both PDF and SGML-DDI formats, with the latter replacing the OSIRIS codebook/dictionary.

Information about the SGML DDI can be found at: <http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/DDI>.

Paper documentation will continue to be available from ICPSR for anyone having difficulty printing or using PDF files.

ICPSR will no longer produce formatted ASCII codebooks, which absorbed about half the time of the staff who produced documentation and never worked very well anyway.

ICPSR will archive "text + image" versions of PDF documentation for use when standards change again.

Excerpts from an ICPSR document now appear on the ICPSR Website in PDF form to provide further information on what ICPSR is doing and planning in terms of producing electronic documentation for a much larger portion of its archive. The first excerpt,

"Producing electronic forms of documentation: The experience at ICPSR," reports how ICPSR has scanned documentation in the past and the difficulties it has encountered. The second excerpt, "A better approach to electronic representation of documents: PDF files and Adobe Acrobat," explains ICPSR's current usage of PDF technology.

## Library News

### PANDORA - Preserving and Accessing Networked Documentary Resources in Australia

PANDORA is a project initiated by the National Library of Australia to investigate strategies and implement procedures for the capture, storage, preservation and access to digital data by creating an electronic archive of library materials. It is being funded in part by the Australian Vice Chancellors' Committee (AVCC) Working Group on Electronic Publishing.

The Library is committed to preserving selected electronic publications of lasting cultural value for access by the Australian community now and in the future. It has already published Guidelines for selection of online electronic materials of national significance identified for preservation (<http://www.nla.gov.au/1/scoap/scoapgui.html>). Some initial work has been done on experimenting with ways of cataloguing, organising and managing these publications so that their existence is visible to potential users.

We are interested in covering the full range of materials published online in Australia - including serials, newspapers and books, as well as unique online formats like 'homepages'.

For further information on the PANDORA project, a fuller report is online at <http://www.nla.gov.au/policy/plan/pandora.html>, or contact the Project Manager, Wendy Smith on telephone +61 6 262 1667, or email [wsmith@nla.gov.au](mailto:wsmith@nla.gov.au).

Lyall, Jan. [jlyall@nla.gov.au]. "PANDORA." In Collibs. [collibs@is.su.edu.au]. 17 January 1997.

### Preserving Access to Digital Information Web Site

The Preserving Access to Digital Information (PADI) Web site gathers a range of information in one place to assist creator/publishers, managers, researchers, and all with an interest in ensuring long-term access

to important digital information. The prototype form of this Web site may be accessed now at: <http://www.nla.gov.au/dnc/td2001/padi/padi.html>.

Your feedback is necessary to ensure the correct topics are covered and no information missed. Anyone wishing to comment on this site is welcome to contact the PADI Working Group through the feedback form on the Web.

The PADI Working Group has received funding from the Australian Vice-Chancellors' Committee and comprises representatives from the National Library of Australia, the National Museum of Australia, Australian Archives, the National Film and Sound Archive, the Department of Communications and the Arts, the Australian Council of Libraries and Information Services, CSIRO Mathematical and Information Sciences, and the private information technology sector.

For further information contact: Jan Lyall, National Library of Australia, Canberra ACT 2600, email: [npo@nla.gov.au](mailto:npo@nla.gov.au).

Jakimow, Rachel. [RJAKIMOW@nla.gov.au]. "Preserving Access to Digital Information." In Collibs. [collibs@is.su.edu.au]. 20 January 1997.

## Resource Centre for Access to Data on Europe (Rcade)

Researchers can now obtain Eurostat, ILO and UNESCO statistics from r-cade. This new service, funded by the ESRC is a joint venture between The Data Archive at the University of Essex and the Centre for European Studies at the University of Durham.

The initial data domains include:

**UNESCO** - primary, secondary and higher education statistics by country. Population statistics and projections.

**ILO** - The "Laborsta" database including data by country on: hours of work, employment, unemployment, labour costs, consumer prices, industrial relations, and economic activity. This data is used to compile their statistical Yearbooks and these data sets are expected to be updated annually.

**Eurostat** - r-cade is an official Host for Eurostat statistics, many down to NUTS 3 in geographical resolution. Themes include: REGIO (Regional economic statistics); Eurostatus (Main economic indicators); Eurostatistics (Economic and social indicators); SEC1, SEC2, TRIM (National accounts, goods and services, consumption trade); PACE (Employment and unemployment); Demo

(Demography); LACOSTS (Labour costs); SOCPROT (Social protection); LINDA (Main industrial indices, communications, infrastructure, financial services etc.); TOUR (Tourism); TRAINS (Carriage of goods); ZRD2 (Research and development). It is planned to disseminate the ENVSTAT (European environmental statistics) when released. Updates of Eurostat will be received every two months.

Brochures giving full details of the costs and how to use the service are available online through the Website (URL <http://rcade.essex.ac.uk>) or by contacting:

Freda Denby, Administrative Secretary, r-cade, Unit 1L, Mountjoy Research Centre, University of Durham, Durham, DH1 3SW, UK; Tel: +44 01206 872 569; Fax: +44 01206 872 003; Email: [freda.denby@durham.ac.uk](mailto:freda.denby@durham.ac.uk).

Littlewood, Peter. [[peterl@essex.ac.uk](mailto:peterl@essex.ac.uk)]. "Launch of Resource Centre for Access to Data on Europe (Rcade)." In CESDDA-Expert. [[cessda-expert-l@cidsp.upmf-grenoble.fr](mailto:cessda-expert-l@cidsp.upmf-grenoble.fr)]. 5 February 1997.

### IDEALog 3.0 Ideological Self-Test (Goldman)

IDEALog 3.0, a computer program for analysing political values, is now available for downloading on the World Wide Web. Over the years, this established, award-winning program,\* has helped thousands of students to understand the underlying dimensions of political ideologies and to test their own self-classification by answering twenty questions from recent national surveys that deal with the values of Freedom, Order, and Equality.

IDEALog 3.0 views contemporary politics along two distinct dimensions: (1) the value tradeoff between Freedom and Order, and (2) the tradeoff between Freedom and Equality. It constructs a two-dimensional classification involving these four ideological types: Libertarians, Liberals, Communitarians, and Conservatives.

Like previous versions, the new one runs under the Macintosh and IBM-compatible operating systems. Soon to be released is a Java version for use directly on the Web. A Windows version is also underway.

Instructors should note that IDEALog 3.0 contains a hidden tally function which will enable you to collect summary results from the 20 questions in the self-test. Please contact Kenneth Janda ([k-janda@nwu.edu](mailto:k-janda@nwu.edu)) or Jerry Goldman ([j-goldman@nwu.edu](mailto:j-goldman@nwu.edu)) for instructions on the use of the tally.

You can obtain IDEALog 3.0, which has always been free, by navigating to: <http://www.hmco.com/college/COD/home.html>.

\* IDEALog 1.0 was created in 1987, and IDEALog 2.0 won the Instructional Software Award from the American Political Science Association in 1992.

Goldman, Jerry. [[j-goldman@nwu.edu](mailto:j-goldman@nwu.edu)]. "An ideological self-test for students." In H-Net Political History discussion list. [[H-POL@KSUVM.BITNET](mailto:H-POL@KSUVM.BITNET)]. 13 February 1997.

### Free Data and Documentation of ISSP 1993 - Environment - ZA No.2450

The Zentralarchiv is giving free access to data and documentation of the 1993 ISSP module on "Environment" for a test-period of three months (March 1 to May 31, 1997). During this time it is possible to download the SPSS portable files for each of the 20 participating countries. The file-structure is the same for each data-set.

The machine-readable documentation is supplied in ASCII-format and consists of the preface, the questionnaire part, the demographic variables and the end-notes of the Zentralarchiv codebook.

The Zentralarchiv is of course very interested in each kind of feed-back from the user-community. Thus we appreciate every comment on this test-service and of course, if you use these data for a publication, let us know and send us whatever you have published with the 1993 ISSP on "Environment".

To download the data go to URL <http://www.za.uni-koeln.de/data/en/issp/index.htm>.

Uher, Rolf. [[uher@za.uni-koeln.de](mailto:uher@za.uni-koeln.de)]. "ISSP Test-Download of ISSP data." In CESDDA-Expert. [[cessda-expert-l@cidsp.upmf-grenoble.fr](mailto:cessda-expert-l@cidsp.upmf-grenoble.fr)]. 6 March 1997.

**Change of Address?  
Don't forget to let us know.  
Drop us a line on  
email ([ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au))  
or phone us on 06 249 4400**

## Data Releases

### International Social Mobility and Politics File (Steinmetz Study No. P1145)

The International Social Mobility and Politics File (ISMP-file) consists of a merged set of 113 extract files from data that contain (at a minimum) information on intergenerational occupational mobility (i.e. father's occupation and respondent's occupation) and political party preferences (voting, voting intentions etc.) of the respondents. All extracts derive from general population samples from 16 countries (Australia included) ranging over the post-World War II period. The purpose of creating the combined file is to standardise the available information on a selection of the variables in these files.

The merged extract file contains 95 variables. These variables include: Occupations of respondent and father, and where available: of mother, spouse and first job. Political party preferences: party identification, voting intention, vote at last election of respondent, and where available the same of father and mother.

Where available: Elementary demographics: gender, age, marital status, geographical location, status in family. Education of respondent, father, mother, spouse. Employment of respondent and spouse: employment status, hours worked. Personal and household income. Other: religion (father, mother, respondent, spouse), home ownership, subjective class (father, respondent), left-right political identification.

Anyone interested in this file should contact the SSDA at [ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au).

### General Social Surveys, 1972-1996: [Cumulative File] (ICPSR Study No. 6870)

The General Social Surveys (GSS) have been conducted by the National Opinion Research Center annually since 1972 except for the years 1979, 1981, and 1992 (a supplement was added in 1992), and biennially beginning in 1994. For each round of surveys, the Roper Center for Public Opinion Research prepares a cumulative data set that merges previous years of the GSS into a single file, with each year or survey constituting a subfile.

The content of each survey changes slightly as some items are added to or deleted from the interview schedule. Main areas covered in the GSS include

socioeconomic status, social mobility, social control, the family, race relations, sex relations, civil liberties, and morality. Topical modules designed to investigate new issues or to expand the coverage of an existing subject have been part of the GSS since 1977 when the first module on race, abortion, and feminism appeared.

The topical modules for 1996 focused on the themes of gender, emotions, market exchange, giving and volunteering, and mental health. Other topics covered have included family mobility and multiculturalism (1994), cultural issues (1993), work organisations (1991), intergroup relations (1990), occupational prestige (1989), religious socialisation, behaviours, and beliefs (1988), sociopolitical participation (1987), the feminisation of poverty (1986), social networks (1985), and the role of the military (1982 and 1984).

The GSS also added a crossnational component in 1985, through participation in a multinational collaborative group called the International Social Survey Program (ISSP). Topics addressed have included the role of government (1985, 1990, and 1996), social support (1986), social inequality (1987), family and gender issues (1988 and 1994), work orientation (1989), the impact of religious background, behaviour, and beliefs on social and political preferences (1991), environmental issues (1993), national identity (1996).

In 1994, two major innovations were introduced to the GSS. First, the traditional core set of questions was substantially reduced to allow for the creation of mini-modules (small- to medium-sized supplements). The mini-modules permit greater flexibility to incorporate innovations and to include important items proposed by the social science community. Second, a new biennial, split-sample design was instituted, consisting of two parallel subsamples of approximately 1,500 cases each. The two subsamples contain identical cores and different topical ISSP modules.

### Release Five of the British Household Panel Survey (BHPS)

Data from Release Five of the BHPS is now available from the UK Data Archive. This Release includes the Fifth Wave of BHPS data collected in the Autumn and Winter of 1995/6, core data collected at each previous wave, and a module of responses to questions for 11-15 year olds and related questions for their parents, introduced at Wave Four. In addition, the Wave Five data contain a component of data on assets and debt. This supplements the core finance data on property ownership and pension holding, with information on

balances held in savings accounts, holdings of shares and other investments (including information on types of holdings and levels). It also contains data on windfall receipts, including lottery winnings, and debts (type and level), and difficulties in making repayments on these debts.

As in previous years, the earlier waves of data are being re-released - these include the following enhancements: More longitudinal data checks have been introduced for demographic variables, such as age and marital status, and a small number of longitudinal inconsistencies have been resolved. Very extensive checking of the income data has also taken place, correcting a number of minor errors in the construction of income derived variables across all waves.

Information on all aspects of the data are in the new User Manual. The Update package, for existing users, contains information on the latest wave of data and describes new features of the data and changes since the last release. The complete six volume User Manual and the User Manual update can be purchased from the Centre, at a cost of £111 (plus postage & packing) for the complete Manual, and £29 (plus p&p) for the Update package. As before, the Manual is also available on diskette from the Data Archive in WordPerfect 5.1 format for the cost of the diskette(s), or on a CD with the data. An on-line version will be available later in the year.

The data and documentation (as well as application form) are available from the Data Archive, University of Essex, Wivenhoe Park, Colchester, CO4 3SQ, UK; or by email on [archive@essex.ac.uk](mailto:archive@essex.ac.uk).

Brice, John. [[bricj@essex.ac.uk](mailto:bricj@essex.ac.uk) or [seralph6.essex.ac.uk](mailto:seralph6.essex.ac.uk)]. "BHPS Release 5." In [nusers](mailto:nusers@essex.ac.uk). [21 February 1997].

### Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS)

URL: <http://dpls.dacc.wisc.edu/wls/wlsarch.htm>

The Wisconsin Longitudinal Study (WLS) is a 35-year study of a random sample of 10,317 men and women who graduated from Wisconsin high schools in 1957 and of their randomly selected brothers and sisters. Survey data collected from the original respondents or their parents in 1957, 1964, and 1975 provide a full record of social background, youthful aspirations, schooling, military service, family formation, labor market experiences, and social participation. Survey data have been supplemented by mental ability tests (of primary respondents and 2000 of their siblings), measures of school performance, and characteristics of communities of residence, schools and colleges, employers, and

industries. The WLS records for primary respondents are also linked to those of three, same-sex high school friends within the study population. In 1977 parallel interview data were obtained from 2000 siblings of the primary respondents. These data are contained in the Wave 1 release of the WLS. In 1993/94 the sibling sample was expanded with content similar to Wave 2.

#### Sixth Edition of the Wave 1 (1957-77) WLS Data

The WLS23U\_3 update of the Wave 1 data is in a format that is similar to previous releases but will require the updated documentation and data extract program.

There are several new variables but the record length remains the same. The WLS23U\_3 update also includes revised and extended machine-readable documentation in raw ASCII format, e.g., an index of variable names and listings of variable name, locations, and value labels. This sixth edition of the 1957-77 WLS data is being released simultaneously through the Data and Program Library Service, University of Wisconsin Madison and through the Inter-University Consortium for Political and Social Research.

The WLS23U\_3 release adds new variables about relationships between respondents, between respondents and siblings, and between siblings. New variables have been created for dates and place of death of respondent and the existing death variables have been updated. Minor errors have also been corrected in the data and the documentation. Memos have been added on the selection of WLS variables and the use of IQ and High School Rank Variables. The WLSGV extract program has been updated to be used with this new release.

#### Fifth Edition Of The Wave 2 (1992/93) WLS Data

In 1992/93 the original sample of graduates was interviewed again by telephone and mail. The content included detailed occupational histories and job characteristics; incomes, assets, and inter-household transfers; social and economic characteristics of parents, siblings, and children and descriptions of the respondents' relationships with them; and extensive information about mental and physical health and well-being. These data are contained in the Wave 2 release of the WLS.

The WLS23R\_4 update of the Wave 2 data is in a format that is similar to previous releases but will require the updated documentation and data extract program - WLSGV.

The WLS23R\_4 update replaces the wage rate variable and the summary variables in depression and personality which were incorrect in all earlier releases. Flags have been added and some additional codes to help identify item non-response in assets, wage rate, and caregiving. A variable has been added to indicate if the selected sibling in the 1992/93 data is the same as the sibling asked about in the 1975 survey and additional minor errors in data and documentation have been corrected.

#### Third Wave of WLS: 1993/94 Sibling Telephone and Mail Surveys

This Wave 3 release contains data from the 1993/94 sibling telephone and mail surveys of the WLS, including detailed occupational histories and job characteristics; incomes, assets, and inter-household transfers; social and economic characteristics of parents, siblings, and children and descriptions of the respondents' relationships with them; and extensive information about mental and physical health and well-being. Because of budget constraints, it was not possible to administer both telephone and mail questionnaires to the entire eligible population of approximately 6700 cases. Instead, both telephone and mail questionnaire items were administered to 80% of the eligible cases, with the remaining 20% of cases receiving only the mail module items (containing a supplement of key items from the telephone survey). Data are available for 4804 sibling who completed the telephone survey only, for 4045 siblings who completed the mail survey, and for 5363 siblings who completed both the telephone modules and the supplementary mail modules containing variables on education, employment, children, and marriage, as well as respondent ID and sampling information.

The WLSGV extract program has been updated to be used with this new release.

Guy, Laura. [[guy@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:guy@ssc.wisc.edu)]. "orl Data Availability Announcement." In the Informal List for ICPSR Official Representatives. [[orl@majordomo.srv.ualberta.ca](mailto:orl@majordomo.srv.ualberta.ca)]. 25 March 1997

#### 1971 Population Census of Indonesia

The .38% sample file (3.8% sample for Jakarta and Jogjakarta) for the 1971 Population Census of Indonesia, conducted during September-October 1971, is available from the Data and Program Library Service (DPLS), University of Wisconsin, Madison (URL: <http://dpls.dacc.wisc.edu/indo/>).

The data file, available in logical-record format rectangular ASCII, was supplied by Gordon Temple,

Department of Economics, University of Wisconsin-Madison, and contains records for 611,111 persons. Included are variables on the individual's place of birth, age, sex, relationship to head of household, marital status, ethnic origin, religion, language spoken, literacy, educational attainment, migration patterns, number of children born and living, and employment history and present status.

For more information about the file, including details on sampling and available documentation, contact Laura Guy at the DPLS.

Guy, Laura. [[guy@ssc.wisc.edu](mailto:guy@ssc.wisc.edu)]. "Data Announcement." In IASSIST List. [[IASSIST-L@yalevm.ycc.yale.edu](mailto:IASSIST-L@yalevm.ycc.yale.edu)]. 15 January 1997.

### The New Demands on Qualitative Computing

In the few years since computing seriously addressed qualitative research, qualitative computing has become essential, expected and professional (any university course teaching qualitative research without computing is exercising a particular form of sadism, since students will be denied access to data, automating of dreary clerical routines, and ways of iteratively exploring meanings that have simply altered the method; they also will be unemployable if they survive the experience).

The ways the software has changed also tells of the methodological whirlwind in qualitative research. User demands now drive software developments. This is a sharp contrast from the early days when the Australian contender, NUD\*IST, was a La Trobe University research project. QSR, on the La Trobe research park, has just put out the new fourth revision of NUD\*IST, driven by an army of user-contributors and critics, backed by an increasingly informed literature, and aggressive qualitative computing debate on the lists. What follows is not a description of the new software (for that, go to the website), nor, heaven forbid, a claim that all demands are answered by a particular revision of a particular package, rather: a reflection on the recent methodological change that drives software development.

The demands were in many different (sometimes contradictory) directions. It's my impression that qualitative research, "empowered" by computing, has at last acknowledged a built-in contradiction in the methods. Good qualitative research needs sensitivity AND rigor, small AND sometimes large scale, fluidity of theory emergence and construction AND sharp, hard, theory testing.

The demands of the past year were for closeness to data AND distance, ability to zoom in on the text to see context and confirm coding, step away to see coding density, patterns and results.

The "closeness" theme has been the most dramatic development. It's not long since researchers were thrilled to be able to code stuff and get back everything coded the same way, and code-and-retrieve programs were regarded as the answer to the qualitative researcher's prayer. They are now widely regarded as distorting the method.

Researchers need coding, but want it flexible and fluid. They now want the text and the idea linked so they can move between their coding and its results, rethinking and reassessing and viewing in context. Merely retrieving "dead" extracts is now seen as a dead-end in qualitative theory-building. The demand is for ways of jumping between the retrievals and original documents, shifting to the other codes applying to that text, revising coding, expanding context, and reviewing the results whilst writing about them in memos. I'd expect that demand to extend now to handling of rich text (most programs are still importing ASCII), and it has already extended to sound and visual images.

The meanings of coding have also altered (interestingly, unnoticed by the literature). In two ways that NUD\*IST innovated and other programs followed, it has now been significantly revised. One is the use of hierarchical structuring of indexes, the second the ability to question patterns of coding by a wide range of operators, not merely the often useless Boolean and/or/not ones.

Hierarchical indexing proved both precious and restrictive. Researchers need index systems, since they want to use coding for managing and exploring ideas, expressing relations and storing factual information. But now it has to be a different sort of index system that can be viewed and used in multiple ways, since they want also to keep codes free of organisation, to store and explore unconnected ideas. And question-asking by searching the index system proved essential but difficult: results had to be much more accessible, seen on the screen, flexibly explored or exported elsewhere.

The new demands also indicate new attitudes to data. Data documents have to be flexible, extendable, able to be annotated and amended as they are rethought. The distinction between the "original" data and the researcher's reflections is much less rigid, and both have to be easily revised and rethought.

On the other hand, much of the demand in recent years was for more efficiency and handling of large-scale data, what I have always regarded as right-

wing qualitative analysis! Handling of documents in multiples, automatically doing the boring descriptive coding and reviewing efficiently are universal demands, each of which would have been regarded as fairly odd or improper a few years back. When NUD\*IST introduced command files to run procedures, which required familiarity with command language, understandably only a tiny proportion of users ever ventured into that area. The demand now was for more automation, and particularly for direct automating of import and export from statistics and spreadsheet programs.

Therein lies another major change: the treating of data records such as open-ended questions from a survey as worthy of "qualitative" analysis. Having been dragged to this position by handling very rich data from such sources, I've been one of the most demanding of a straight import and export of table data in the qualitative software.

This was accompanied by another demand, for systematic handling of cases. Qualitative researchers are always bedevilled by the bits and pieces of data that apply to a case studied over time, or occur in several documents. Qualitative computing steadfastly stuck to the assumption that a document always represents a case (hangover from survey research). One of the strong demands in recent years has been for recognition of case analysis as a qualitative research issue.

From the first reviews of qualitative computing, there has been a different, growing demand, for linking with other software. In my view, this is part of a general coming-out for qualitative researchers. Required now are links not only with statistics programs, but also with programs supporting theorising, diagramming, mind-mapping, model build-up, as well as (yes, dare to say it!) elegant and high profile displays. Not a topic we used to include in qualitative research classes!

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## The Australian Illicit Drug Report

The Australian Illicit Drug Report is an annual report produced by the Australian Bureau of Criminal Intelligence (ABCI).

The report is considered to be the leading authority on the national illicit drug situation. It contains over 200 pages of text and graphics and includes chapters relating to cannabis, heroin, cocaine, amphetamines, anabolic substances, the proceeds of drug related crime, drugs in prisons and initiatives in drug law enforcement. It also discusses other drugs such as ecstasy, LSD and pharmaceuticals and covers areas of debate such as decriminalisation and alternative treatment programs.

The report contains statistical data on arrests and seizures, tables of street level drug prices across the various jurisdictions and details of the numerous research studies conducted into illicit drugs by the various agencies in this field. It also contains a chapter on the efficacy of heroin law enforcement written by Dr Don Weatherburn, Director of the New

South Wales Bureau of Crime Statistics and Research, and Bronwyn Lind, the Bureau's Deputy Director.

The publication covers the period from January 1995 to June 1996 and contains numerous photographs, maps, graphs and charts depicting trends, patterns, trafficking routes and user data. The report is used extensively in the national law enforcement arena and is distributed nationally and internationally to health authorities, research institutions and law enforcement agencies.

The publication is available from Bibliotech in Canberra, ACT, at a cost of \$25.00 plus postage and packaging. Further information can be obtained by contacting Bibliotech on telephone 06 249 2479 or facsimile on 06 257 5088.

Boon. [boon@mailhost.world.net]. "Australian Illicit Drug Report." In Update. [update@adca.org.au]. 8 January 1997.

### New QSR NUD\*IST rev 4!

The leading Qualitative Analysis software has just become a whole lot better!

#### What's new:

closeness to data, document flexibility, ways of storing & exploring nodes, handling of cases, importing/exporting coding, link to statistical analysis & modelling, reporting functions, on-line help & user guide

Do you want skills, training, project support, consultancy, data input help for using QSR NUD\*IST 4? Do you want teaching - in class or a course?

#### You need QSR!

To find out about the Australian software that became an international leader in qualitative analysis, or for more information, contact: Dianne Goeman

Phone: (03) 9459 1699  
Email: [Dianne@qsr.com.au](mailto:Dianne@qsr.com.au)  
Http: [www.qsr.com.au](http://www.qsr.com.au)

### Weekend Workshop on the new QSR NUD\*IST rev 4

a practical introduction to qualitative method on the new QSR NUD\*IST Version 4 software

The workshop will be hands-on, using the new QSR NUD\*IST rev 4 software for Nonnumerical Unstructured Data Indexing Searching and Theorising, widely regarded as the leading package for such analysis in Australia and overseas. The range of tools, including new features, for automating clerical work, links to statistical analysis & modelling, handling cases, managing documents and ideas will be demonstrated, with emphasis on ways of doing on computer the qualitative tasks of exploring and coding data, theorising and reporting.

When?  
Saturday 3rd and Sunday 4th May  
La Trobe University, Bundoora

Cost?  
\$300 for the two days,  
(discount for full time unwaged students)

For enquiries and enrolment forms phone or email Dianne,  
Ph (03) 94 59 16 99,  
fax (03) 94 59 04 35  
email [dianne@qsr.com.au](mailto:dianne@qsr.com.au).

## Centre for Applied Social Surveys - Question Bank

The CASS \* Question Bank is up and running from 1 November 1996. URL: <http://www.scpr.ac.uk/cass>.

The Question Bank is a reference source for question formats and wordings used on major social surveys, provides supporting material on concepts and methodology, and aims to disseminate knowledge about survey data collection methods to achieve comparability of results.

The core surveys covered in the Question Bank at its launch are: Census of Population; General Household Survey; Family Expenditure Survey; Labour Force Survey; Family Resources Survey; British Household Panel Survey; British Social Attitudes Survey; British Election Study

The Question Bank aims to:

- show how questions have been asked in major social surveys
- encourage standardisation of question design
- encourage a critical approach to survey measurement.

Structured as a World Wide Web site, the Question Bank aims to provide a reference source of material accessible by topic and by source, to provide commentary upon topics of research (such as economic activity and household structure), and to reproduce the main questionnaires for the surveys included in the Question Bank.

The Question Bank will also provide:

- reproduced reference documents
- notes on issues of measurement, classification schemes, etc
- useful references for further reading
- evidence on reliability and validity from question testing and
- calibration research

The Question Bank will, it is hoped, be useful to social survey designers, survey users and secondary analysts of data in academic social science and social research and in professional social research in the government, independent charitable and commercial sectors.

\* CASS is an ESRC Resource Centre hosted by SCPR and the University of Southampton, with the University of Surrey.

Dionne, JoAnn. [SSDA@yalevm.ycc.yale.edu]. "forwarded from Pat Doyle." In IASSIST List. [IASST-L@yalevm.ycc.yale.edu]. 5 November 1996.

## Content Analysis Resources

A new web site is available that provides bibliographic, computer, and internet resources for researchers and students interested in quantitative analyses of texts and images. It's called Content Analysis Resources and it can be found at: <http://www.gsu.edu/~wwwcom/content.html>.

Kuechler, Manfred. [mkuechle@shiva.hunter.cuny.edu]. "METHODS digest 126." In Social Science Research Methods Instructors. [methods@mail.unm.edu]. 18 December 1996.

## List Servs

### Content Analysis

CONTENT welcomes discussion of the theoretical, methodological, and technological aspects of quantitative analyses of texts and images. Appropriate topics for discussion include: software and hardware for content analysis; research design in content analysis (e.g. sampling issues, coding instruments and protocols); statistics for content analysis; teaching content analysis; and the role of content analysis in an era of electronic information flows and interactive media.

CONTENT members receive Publication Alerts (timely summaries of noteworthy publications) and a comprehensive bimonthly bibliography.

To subscribe to the list send mail to:

**listproc@listproc.gsu.edu**

Using the text:

**subscribe CONTENT your name**

### Drug and Alcohol Studies (DAS-L)

The purpose of the DAS-L list is to facilitate discussion about ongoing and current studies of drug and alcohol abuse and treatment. It is hoped that this will be a multinational and interdisciplinary forum for discussions, as well as a valuable resource tool for those engaged in the study and treatment of drug and alcohol problems.

To subscribe to the list send mail to:

**majordomo@udel.edu**

Using the text:

**subscribe DAS-L your@email.address**

## Summer Programs

### SRC Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques First Session: 2 June - 27 June, 1997 Second Session: 30 June - 25 July, 1997

For more information, you can visit <http://udel.edu/~baubb> and follow the links to "discussion lists" and the bookmark "DAS-L".

McDonald, David. [David.McDonald@aic.gov.au]. "Announcement: DAS-L discussion list." In Update. [update@adca.org.au]. 7 November 1996.

### NSWPH-ANNOUNCE

NSWPH-ANNOUNCE is an Internet mailing list operated and maintained by Public Health Division of the NSW Health Department. It is designed to keep you informed about: the release of new editions of the NSW Public Health Bulletin; the release of other NSW Health Department publications relating to public health; updates and additions to the NSW Health Department Web pages; forthcoming conferences and other events relating to public health in NSW.

Please note that NSWPH-ANNOUNCE is a moderated mailing list intended for public health announcements. You are welcome to send mail to the list for distribution - however your message must be approved by the list owner before it is sent to other subscribers on the list. You will be informed of the fate of any messages which you send to the list for distribution.

To subscribe to the list send mail to:

**listproc@phweb.doh.health.nsw.gov.au**

Using the text:

**subscribe NSWPH-ANNOUNCE Firstname Surname**

If your e-mail software automatically appends a signature or other text at the end of each message, place the word **end** on a line by itself directly after the subscribe line.

The NSWPH-ANNOUNCE mailing list will automatically add you to its list and e-mail you a confirmation message.

The Survey Research Center at the University of Michigan's Institute for Social Research announces the 50th Annual Summer Institute. The mission of the Summer Institute in Survey Research Techniques is to provide rigorous and high quality graduate training in all phases of survey research, teach state-of-the-art practice and theory in the design, implementation, and analysis of surveys that contribute to social science goals. The Summer Institute, which celebrates its 50th year in 1997, is intended to benefit current students as well as professionals, regardless of employment sector, who have backgrounds ranging from little to extensive survey experience. The Institute has a multidisciplinary faculty drawn from the staff of the Survey Research Center and other internationally known experts.

The Summer Institute benefits people with various backgrounds, depending upon their qualifications and needs. During the course of the program, participants become acquainted with survey methods (study design, sampling, questionnaire design, interviewing, coding, methods of analysis, and data management) as applied to the fields of business, public health, education, industry, and government, or as used in general social science research.

Course topics include: Analysis of Survey Data I; Cognition, Communication and Survey Measurement; Computer Analysis of Survey Data I; Data Collection Methods in Survey Research; Event History Analysis; Introduction to Statistical Research Design; Introduction to Survey Research; Introduction to Survey Sampling; Longitudinal Survey Design and Analysis; Methods of Survey Sampling; Multi-Level Analysis of Survey Data; Qualitative Methods in Survey Research; Statistical Analysis with Missing Data; Workshop in Survey Sampling Techniques; Design of Observational Studies for Evaluation Research; Introduction to Survey Measurement Quality; Questionnaire Design; Self-Administered/Mail Surveys; and Using Surveys Across Nations and Time.

The Sampling Program for Survey Statisticians (SPSS), is being offered for the 33rd time in the summer of 1997 as part of the 50th Summer

### The ACSPRI Newsletter is online!

Send us your email address and we'll notify

you when the latest edition is available.

For those of you with access to the internet

this is the best way to receive the newsletter -

it will offer you more up-to-date information

and it's environmentally friendly!

Institute. It combines university classes with practical application in research methods and office practice.

Questions concerning the kinds of skills and experience required by these courses should be addressed to Dr. James M. Lepkowski, Director of the Summer Institute. Applications to attend the program should be addressed to Ms. Andrea Johns, Administrative Associate, SRC Summer Institute, Institute for Social Research, Room 315, Ann Arbor, MI 48106-1248. Tel: +1 313 764 6595; Fax: +1 313 764 8263; Email: summers@isr.umich.edu. URL: <http://www.isr.umich.edu/src/si/>.

### The 2nd Leiden Summer School in New Media and Advanced Methods for Historians and Archivists 13-28 June, 1997

The Netherlands Historical Data Archive and the University of Leiden are organising the 2nd Leiden Summer School in New Media and Advanced Methods for Historians and Archivists. The Summer School consists of a series of self-contained 2 and 3 day courses for advanced and postgraduate history students, professional historians and archivists. Five courses will be taught in English.

Courses will include: Introduction to new media and advanced methods for historians and archivists; Electronic information resources for historians applied to cases of social and economic history; Analysis of historical texts with TACT; Advanced statistics for historians applied to colonial history; and Scanning and Optical Character Recognition of historical documents.

For further information you can contact the organisers of the Summer School or the Secretariat of the NHDA. Tel: +31 71 527 2742; Fax: +31 71 527 2615; Email: [NHDA@rullet.leidenuniv.nl](mailto:NHDA@rullet.leidenuniv.nl). URL: <http://oasis.leidenuniv.nl/nhda/nhda-welcome-nl.html>.

### ICPSR Summer Program in Quantitative Methods First Session: 23 June - 18 July, 1997 Second Session: 21 July - 15 August, 1997

In June-August each year, the ICPSR conducts a Summer Program at the University of Michigan in the United States. The Program offers a comprehensive integrated program of studies 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, hands on data analysis sessions. URL: [http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/Other\\_Resources/Summer/summer.html](http://www.icpsr.umich.edu/ICPSR/Other_Resources/Summer/summer.html).

**Further details and application forms are available from ACSPRI, which can provide a very limited amount of financial assistance for travel to the Program.**

### 4th International Summer School on Computational Statistics 23 June - 4 July, 1997

The International Association for Statistical Computing (IASC) and the Department of Statistical Science of the University of Padua, Italy, will host an International Summer School on Computational Statistics at the University of Padua, Italy. The school is intended for young researchers and PhD students. Participants are required to have a good background in statistics and a basic knowledge of computer usage. The school will last two weeks and the courses will include practical sessions using computers. The official language of the school will be English.

Courses offered at the school are: Non-parametric smoothing methods; Monte Carlo Markov Chains; and Neural networks and classification trees.

The number of participants is limited to 45. If the number of applicants exceeds this limit, applicants will be accepted on the basis of their curriculum vitae which must be submitted. The application form, as well as curriculum vitae and certificate of Academic position, must be sent to the local organising committee no later than 15 May, 1997.

Contact: International Summer School on Computational Statistics, Dipartimento di Scienze Statistiche, Università di Padova via San Francesco, 33, I35121 Padova, Italy; Email: [ssiasc@gauss.stat.unipd.it](mailto:ssiasc@gauss.stat.unipd.it). URL: <http://www.stat.unipd.it/dip/ssiasc/iasc.html>.

### The 30th Essex Summer School in Social Science Data Analysis and Collection 5 July - 15 August, 1997

The Summer School runs three consecutive two-week sessions, with 10-12 courses offered in each session. Courses focus on the needs of researchers at three levels of expertise: 'elementary' (e.g. Data Analysis for Beginners; Introduction to Survey Research); 'intermediate' (e.g. Time Series Analysis;

Log Linear Analysis); and 'advanced' (e.g. Latent Class Analysis; Structural Equation Modelling; Bayesian Estimation).

There are also intensive data confrontation workshops on the British Household Panel Survey data and on Comparative European data resources.

Further details about the Summer School are available from: Janet Brightmore, Essex Summer School, University of Essex, Colchester, Essex CO4 3SQ, United Kingdom. Tel: +44 1206 872502; Fax: +44 1206 873598; E-mail: [sum\\_sch@essex.ac.uk](mailto:sum_sch@essex.ac.uk). URL: <http://www.essex.ac.uk/social-science-methodology-school/>.

## Conferences

**Data Warehousing Mining, Refining and Recycling, Imperial College, London, United Kingdom  
16 April, 1997**

The Association for Survey Computing is pleased to announce that speakers at its next, one-day conference on Data Warehousing will include:

Brian Donnelly (The SQL Group, UK) Data Integration and Transformation Through Transient Data Hubs;  
Martin Duffy (SAS Institute, UK) End to End Data Mining;  
Dr Sidney Howell (Manchester Business School, UK) Mass Data Analysis as a Tool for Detecting Cost Reduction Opportunities: The Case of a Leading Retailer;  
Sarah Jennings (Oak Ridge National Laboratory, USA) Metadata and the World Wide Web;  
Edward O'Hara (In2itive Technologies A/S, Denmark) Data Warehousing: The Frontier of Business Intelligence;  
Brian Meachings (Office for National Statistics, UK) A Data Warehouse for The Government Statistical Service;  
Dr Simon Raybould (University of Newcastle, UK) Adding Value to Warehoused Administrative Data; and  
Mickey Yost (National Agricultural Statistical Service, USA) Using a Star Schema to Access Historical Survey Data.

Contact: Diana Elder, Administrator, ASC, PO Box 60, Chesham, Bucks, UK HP5 3QH; Tel: +44 (0)1494 793 033; Fax: +44 (0)1494 793 033; Email: [asc-dw@essex.ac.uk](mailto:asc-dw@essex.ac.uk).

**General Practice Evaluation Conference, Melbourne, Vic.  
1-2 May, 1997**

The theme of this General Practice Evaluation Conference is *Challenges and Solutions - Coordination, Collaboration and Collation*. There will be a combination of workshops, oral and poster presentations, and plenary sessions. In addition, facilities will be available for participants to gain hands-on experience in the use of the database of GPEP research and Division project material, established by the General Practice Evaluation Program's National Information Service.

The purpose of this conference is to enable investigators at various stages of their research to benefit from interaction and exchange with each other. This will be an important event for all those with an interest in general practice research evaluation and reform.

Contact: National Information Service, Department of General Practice, Flinders Medical Centre, Bedford Park SA 5042; Tel: 08 8204 5255; Fax: 08 8276 3305; Email: [gpnis@flinders.edu.au](mailto:gpnis@flinders.edu.au).

**IASSIST/IFDO 1997, Odense, Denmark  
6-9 May, 1997**

The 23rd conference of the International Association of Social Science Information Service and Technology, IASSIST, is to take place in Odense, Denmark, on May 6-9, 1997. The Conference will be held in conjunction with IFDO, the International Federation of Data Organisations. The IASSIST/IFDO '97 Conference will bring together researchers, data producers, archivists and data archivists, librarians and data librarians.

The title of the Conference, "Data Frontiers in the Infospace", challenges us to examine the issues at the forefront of information technology on the Information-Superhighway, the Info-bahn.

Contact: Karsten Boye Rasmussen or Kirsten Pagh, Danish Data Archives, Islandsgade 10, DK-5320, Odense M. Denmark; Tel: +45 66 11 3010; Fax: +45 66 11 3060; Email: [kb@dda.sa.dk](mailto:kb@dda.sa.dk) or [kp@dda.sa.dk](mailto:kp@dda.sa.dk). URL: <http://www.da.dk>.

**Australian Reconciliation Convention, Melbourne, Vic.  
26-28 May, 1997**

The Council for Aboriginal Reconciliation was established by a unanimous vote of the Commonwealth Parliament in 1991 to promote and



oversee a process of reconciliation between Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples and the wider Australian community. The Australian Reconciliation Convention is a landmark, mid-term event in the life of the Council. It provides a unique opportunity for Australians from a wide range of backgrounds to be involved in shaping a more confident, mature and harmonious nation for the centenary of Federation in 2001.

Contact: Australian Reconciliation Convention, The Meeting Planners, 108 Church Street, Hawthorn Vic 3122.

**2nd World Congress on Family Law and the Rights of Children and Youth, San Francisco, United States  
3-7 June, 1997**

The Second World Congress will provide over 100 sessions, featuring experts from around the world who will address a variety of critical issues facing children and families, including: children in a violent world; family law, family forms and family functions; the effects of poverty; health issues for families and children; the impact of culture and education. The Congress will have a particular focus on families and children in North, South and Central America and the Caribbean.

Contact: Association of Family and Conciliation Courts, 329 W. Wilson Street, Madison WI 53703 USA; Tel: +1 608 251 4001; Fax: +1 608 251 2231; Email: afcc@igc.apc.org.

**8th International Congress on Women's Health Issues, Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada  
8-10 June, 1997**

Presented by the International Council on Women's Health Issues.

Theme: women in the 21st Century: women as carers, health care providers, health care recipients, educators, politicians. Topics include: population issues; rural women; violence against women; refugees; reproductive rights AIDS/HIV; supportive social networks; political issues affecting women's health; sociocultural health issues; child and dependent care issues; educational rights for women; and mental health issues.

Contact: Lesley Biggs Ph.D., Department of Sociology, University of Saskatchewan Saskatoon, Saskatchewan, Canada S7N 5A5; Email: biggsc@duke.usask.ca.

**4th National Conference on Unemployment: Economic Promise and Political Will, University of South Australia, SA  
18-20 June, 1997**

The 4th National Conference on Unemployment will focus on economic promise and political will of governments in relation to the problem of unemployment. The aim is to change the direction of the debate and to begin a change in policies and actions. The keynote speakers at the Conference will address these issues in plenary sessions, and the issues will receive comprehensive treatment in parallel concurrent sessions.

Topics discussed will include: The politics of unemployment - markets and people; Efficiency and human resources - How do these two things relate?; The importance of the public sector - Is privatisation the best alternative?; Downsizing - Does it increase efficiency? Who bears the cost?; and The psychological costs of unemployment/insecure employment.

Contact: Elizabeth Hoon; Tel: 08 8302 4567; Fax: 08 8302 4377; Email: Elizabeth.Hoon@unisa.edu.au.

**1st Annual Qualitative Methodology Conference: Reclaiming Voice - Ethnographic Inquiry and Qualitative Research in a Post Modern Age, California, United States  
20-22 June, 1997**

At a time when the pressure for change in the academy is increasingly linked to the resurgence of conservative and neo-liberal educational discourses and practices, researchers need to be more direct in countering the attacks in the public space against alternative research methodologies. While the need for research to be theoretically rigorous and ethically accountable is vital, we must be clear that rigor and accountability are not the sole provinces of conservative and neoliberal educational discourses and practices. Good qualitative research helps establish the importance and validity of human experiences, and improves the human condition.

Reclaiming Voice, the first annual qualitative methodology conference sponsored by the University of Southern California, the University of California at Los Angeles, and the University of California at Irvine, acknowledges differences in inquiry and promotes a verisimilitude of (re)presentations and analyses. The conference is intended for those of us concerned about working with alternative methodological and theoretical frameworks. By joining in rigorous, lively interchanges, participants will better understand how to utilise ethnographic and qualitative research, as

well as how to (re)claim and (re)present the voice of ourselves and those with whom we engage in research.

**Keynote Speakers:**

Michele Fine - Insider Research: What Counts as Critical;

Yvonna Lincoln - From Understanding to Action: New Imperatives, New Methods in Qualitative Research;

Peter McLaren - The New Critical Ethnography; and William Tierney - Life History's History: Subjects Foretold.

Contact: Patrick Dilley, Center for Higher Education Policy Analysis, University of Southern California, 701 Waite Phillips Hall, Los Angeles, CA 90089-0031 USA; Tel: +1 213 740 2881; Fax: +1 213 740 3889; Email: chepa@mizar.usc.edu.

**3rd International AIDS Impact Conference, Melbourne, Vic.  
22-25 June, 1997**

The major policy, cultural and social issues concerning HIV prevention and health promotion and issues confronting those living with HIV/AIDS and their carers will be addressed by world experts at the 3rd AIDS Impact Conference.

Conference themes include: Culture, community, care; Developing and sustaining prevention; HIV/AIDS and mental health; Indigenous communities responding to AIDS; Social and ethical dimensions of drug and vaccine trials; Stigma, discrimination, denial; Cultural responses to grief and loss; Public policy and action; Changes in patterns of risk; and Politics and HIV.

The conference program will include keynote sessions, posters, workshops and thematic papers from experts in the field.

Contact: The Meeting Planners; 108 Church Street, Hawthorn Vic 3122; Tel: 03 9819 3700; Fax: 03 9819 5978; Email: meeting@iaccess.com.au.

**8th Annual Meeting of the Social Science Computing Association, Computing for the Social Sciences (CSS'97), Whitman College, Walla Walla, Washington, United States  
26-28 June, 1997**

The principal theme of CSS '97 is "Advanced Technology in the Social Sciences: Views from the Frontier." The conference focuses upon technology as the means for and subject of social science research. This year the conference aims to take a

360 degree look at technology and the social sciences, with an emphasis on future directions.

The program committee is open to any proposed presentations on the conference theme. In addition to traditional presentations of papers, proposals for panels and discussion sessions are welcomed. Some possible topics are: Internet-based social surveys, online focus groups, etc.; Networking for data acquisition, e.g. CATI; Infrastructure analysis and requirements; Community information systems; Classrooms and cyberspace; High performance computing models; Simulation and related technologies; Virtual communities; Large-scale data management, e.g. data mining and warehousing; Global and regional modeling; Visualisation and other graphic methodologies; Artificial intelligence in organisations; Computing tools for qualitative research methods; Supporting the use of technology by social scientists in research and teaching; Entrepreneurship for social scientists who are developing technological tools; Legal issues, e.g. copyright; and Ethics, equity, privacy, and other social issues.

Contact: Conference Chair, Kimberly Jordan, Computer Services, Whitman College, Walla Walla, WA 99362, USA; Email: jordanka@whitman.edu.

**Rural Australia: Towards 2000 Conference, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga, NSW  
July 1997 (exact date unavailable)**

The School of Humanities and Social Sciences at Charles Sturt University in association with the Centre for Rural Social Research is hosting a National Conference in July 1997 on Rural Australia. This conference will provide an opportunity to identify the problems and possibilities that face rural Australia as we enter the next century. There will be three major sections: economic development, national resources and social issues.

Contact: Seumas Miller, Conference Convenor, Head, School of Humanities and Social Sciences, Charles Sturt University, Wagga Wagga NSW 2678; Tel: 069 332 471; Fax: 069 332 792; Email: smiller@scu.edu.au.

**3rd Australian World Wide Web Conference, AusWeb97, Gold Coast, Qld.  
5-9 July, 1997**

The AusWeb series of conferences, hosted by Southern Cross University, has established a track record for delivering the most in-depth content on Web technology and applications in an Australian Web conference.

There will be a number of new elements included in AusWeb97. A Developers Day will be held on Wednesday 9 July, which will be aimed squarely at the advanced technical software developer. The AusWeb team will also be working to improve the people to people interaction at the conference.

A feature of AusWeb97 will be writing teams where small groups of conference delegates will work together to produce a paper on an area of common concern. The joint paper will then be included on the AusWeb Web site and CD-ROM and in the final conference proceedings.

Contact: Noresearch Conference Services; Tel: 066 203 267 Email: ausweb97@scu.edu.au. URL: <http://ausweb.scu.edu.au>.

**Australian and New Zealand Society of Criminology Annual Conference, Brisbane, Qld. 8-11 July, 1997**

The Conference will be hosted by Griffith University and will cover a wide range of themes including: crime prevention,; the politics of law and order; new directions in corrections; women in policing; teaching criminology and criminal justice; and juvenile justice.

Contact: Mark Finnane or Ross Homel, Faculty of Humanities, Griffith University Qld 4111; Tel: 07 3875 7349; Fax: 07 3875 7848; Email: M.Finnane@hum.gu.edu.au or R.Homel@hum.gu.edu.au.

**1st International Congress on Anti Violence Education, Melbourne, Vic. and Sydney, NSW 13-20 August, 1997**

The Australian Council for Educational Research and NRMA Insurance Ltd are jointly organising and hosting this conference. Topics covered will include violence in the media and in schools; domestic violence; racial violence; violence prevention; and therapeutic counselling.

Contact: Ms Trudi Nichols, ACER, 19 Prospect Hill Road, Camberwell Vic 3124; Tel: 03 9277 5515; Email: nichols@acer.edu.au.

**World Congress of Gerontology, Adelaide, SA 19-23 August, 1997**

The theme of the 16th Congress of the International Association of Gerontology - 'Ageing Beyond 2000. One World One Future' - emphasises the global relevance and significance of human ageing. The Congress is planned as a multi-site event. Pre-

Congress meetings will be held in Honolulu (August 16-18), and Singapore (August 17-19). The main Congress in Adelaide will focus on an integrated approach to ageing. A video-conference linking all three sites will draw the themes from Adelaide, Honolulu and Singapore together in an interactive international exchange.

Contact: The Secretariat, 1997 World Congress of Gerontology, Science Park, Bedford Park SA 5042; Tel: 08 201 7568; Fax: 08 201 7552; Email: iag.congress@flinders.edu.au. URL: <http://cmetwww.cc.flinders.edu.au/congress/intro.html>.

**7th Annual Mental Health Services Conference, Sydney, NSW 20-22 August, 1997**

THEMHS is an international conference bringing together a diversity of people and services with the aim of improving mental health services in Australia and New Zealand. The rich tapestry that is mental health services contains many threads - the conference provides the opportunity to weave the threads together, hence the theme 'Tapestry: weaving the threads together'.

Contact: THEMHS Conference, PO Box 192, Balmain NSW 2041 or Sadie Robertson; Tel: 02 9660 4645 (AH); Fax: 02 9810 5073 or Viv Miller; Tel: 02 9413 1647; Fax: 02 9415 1246.

**Social Work Influencing Outcomes, Canberra, ACT 21-24 September, 1997**

The theme of the 25th Australian Association of Social Workers' National Conference is 'Social Work Influencing Outcomes'. Restructuring, deregulation and globalisation herald a changing context for social work practice in Australia. What is the role of social work in this environment? How does the diverse social work profession influence outcomes? The Conference provides a forum for sharing knowledge, examining approaches and clarifying objectives.

Contact: 25th AASW National Conference Secretariat, PO Box 505, Curtin ACT 2605; Tel: 06 281 6624; Fax: 06 285 1336.

**Australian Psychological Society Conference - Psychology: Exploring Links, Cairns Qld. 2-6 October, 1997**

The conference theme 'Psychology: Exploring Links' encompasses links between the discipline and the practice of psychology, links among psychology's

many subdisciplines and between the profession of psychology and other fields. The diversity of the discipline of psychology, its latest developments and benefits to the community at large, as well as its many influences will be highlighted.

Contact: The Australian Psychological Society, PO Box 126, Carlton South Vic 3053; Tel: 03 9663 6166; Fax: 03 9663 6177; Email: confer@aps-nho.mhs.compuser.com.

**23rd General Population Conference, Beijing, China 11-17 October, 1997**

The XXIIIrd General Population Conference of the International Union for the Scientific Study of Population has been announced and will be held in Beijing.

Contact: Jane Verrall, IUSSP, rue des Augustins 34-4000 Liege Belgium; Tel: +32 41 22 40 80; Fax: +32 41 22 38 47; Email: fdevpop1@vm1.ulg.ac.be.

# The Re for Researchers

you:

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# SSDA News

## Staff News

Since the last Newsletter, Sophie Holloway has left the SSDA to take up a position in a market research company. Sophie was responsible for the preparation of the National Social Science Surveys and the 1996 Australian Election and Australian Candidate Study User's Guides. Matt Pearson of the SSDA programming team has also left to take up a graduate position. We wish them both all the best.

## Historical Census Data Tables, 1966-1986

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) has entered into an agreement with the Social Science Data Archives to provide historical census data to the SSDA for storage and distribution. Historical census data here refers to all standard ABS data tables from the 1966 and later censuses which does not relate to the current census or to the census immediately prior to the current census. At this point in time, the data that can be distributed under the agreement covers the data tables from the 1966, 1971, 1976, 1981 and 1986 censuses.

Over the past 9 months, the ABS has been reviewing its holdings of census tables to determine which files should be transferred to the SSDA. For the 1966, 1971 and 1976 Censuses, the SSDA already held copies of all of the ABS census tables except for the 1971 CD Master File which has now been added. Substantial numbers of data tables are however being transferred to the SSDA from the later censuses.

For the 1981 Census, the ABS has provided copies of all of the Detailed Tables on Magnetic Tape, about 180 tables in total. These tables were aimed at extending the general statistical output in the form of publications and microfiche to meet the special needs of user organisations requiring large amounts of detailed statistical data. A small number of tables (on journey to work and internal migration topics) were specified by the ABS, but the majority were specified by State and Commonwealth government departments and authorities and academic users. A complete listing of the tables is given in the Catalogue of 1981 Census Tables Final Edition (ABS Catalogue Number 2139.0) which is now out of print but should be available in major libraries.

The transfer of 1986 and 1991 Census tables is in process but the number of tables involved is very substantial and the project is not expected to be completed until later this year.

In the light of this arrangement, the SSDA will be revising its WWW site to improve access to information about the census table holdings and to the data itself. Our aim is to provide detailed descriptions of all of the variables on line, including frequency distributions, and to allow users to specify tabular analyses of the data online through our OASISS system.

For information on SSDA census data holdings, see: <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/census>

Please Note: There has been some difficulty in locating documentation for some of the early files. If you were a user of the 1971 Census CD Master File or the 1981 Census Detailed Tables on Magnetic Tape (matrix tapes) and still have the documentation which accompanied the tape, please contact the SSDA.

## AWIRS 95

The Department of Industrial Relations is pleased to announce the release of AWIRS 95 data to interested researchers earlier than planned. The release date is now 1 May 1997. As with the original AWIRS release, the AWIRS 95 data will be available through the SSDA and will be distributed with SAS and SPSS program files.

From 1 May users will be able to access from the SSDA:

- the 1995 main cross-sectional survey data
- the 1995 small workplace survey data
- the 1995 employee survey data.

These data sets will be available with necessary documentation and a complete set of frequency counts for each variable. Assistance will also be available (on a user pays basis) from a member of the AWIRS team to help users "get up and running" with the data. This assistance will not be necessary for all researchers, particularly those familiar with the first AWIRS data sets.

The remaining data sets will be available during the mid-year academic semester break (July 1997) and will be released with a more comprehensive amount of documentation, as well as frequency counts on all variables and a comprehensive technical report.

These remaining data include:

- the 1995 panel survey data
- the 1990 main survey and 1990 small workplace survey data recoded to make it consistent with the approach used for the 1995 data
- a number of other data sets which combine various parts of the 1990 and 1995 data, which will allow researchers to more easily perform panel analysis, cross-sectional analysis over time and analysis of workplaces with 5 or more employees.

All recipients of data will be required to sign an undertaking not to release any results of their research until one month after the release of the Department's AWIRS 95 book. The launch date is planned for early September 1997.

Following the release of all the data, members of the AWIRS team will offer in-depth training sessions on how to use the AWIRS data and the types of analysis that can be performed with it. These training sessions are planned to commence in July 1997. Locations and dates will be advised closer to the time.

If you wish to access a copy of the AWIRS 95 data, please contact the SSDA on 06 249 4400. If you wish to discuss any other aspect of the data release or the AWIRS training sessions, please contact the Director of the AWIRS project, Alison Morehead, on 06 243 7763.

## OASISS Update

The SSDA is pleased with the response we've had from users of OASISS. At the time of the September Newsletter, we were still fine tuning OASISS, and only had 4-5 data sets online. We now have expanded the number of data sets included in this service to 12. These are:

- National Social Science Survey 1984: First Round (d0423)
- National Social Science Survey 1986-1987: Role of Government (d0620)
- National Social Science Survey 1987-1988: Inequality (d0627)
- National Social Science Survey 1989-1990: Family and Lifestyles (d0861)
- National Social Science Survey 1993: Inequality II (d0960)
- Australian Election Study, 1987 (d0445)
- Australian Election Study, 1990 (d0570)
- Australian Election Study, 1993 (d0763)
- Australian Election Study, 1996 (d0943)
- Australian Candidate Study, 1993 (d0764)
- Australian Candidate Study, 1996 (d0944)

- Rights in Australia 1991-1992: Mail Survey (d0618m)
- Rights in Australia 1991-1992: Telephone Survey (d0618t)

If you would like to see a particular data set made available on OASISS that is not currently there, please contact the SSDA at [ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au).

## Online User's Guide Library Continues to Grow

Since the September 1996 issue of the Newsletter, the SSDA has placed the following Special User's Guides Series on our Online User's Guides bookshelf. As with all previous inclusions the new additions are fully downloadable in rich text format.

The new online User's Guides are:

- 1993 Australian Candidate Study
- 1996 Australian Candidate Study
- National Social Science Survey 1984: First Round
- National Social Science Survey 1993: Inequality II
- Australian Youth Survey 1989-1994
- National Campaign Against Drug Abuse 1993
- Rights in Australia 1991-1992
- Recreation Participation Survey 1991.

With these inclusions, sixteen Online User's Guides are currently available. Comments or suggestions are welcomed (send them to: [ssda@anu.edu.au](mailto:ssda@anu.edu.au)).

## Special User's Guide for NSSS 1993: Inequality II

The Special User's Guide for the National Social Science Survey 1993: Inequality II (Principal Investigators: Jonathan Kelley, Clive Bean, M.D.R. Evans, Research School of Social Sciences, The Australian National University; and Krzysztof Zagorski, University of Melbourne) is now available at no charge via the SSDA's Online User's Guides web page (URL - <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/codebooks/bookshelf.html>).

Below is the **Research Topic (Abstract)** found in the **Study Description** of the new User's Guide.

**National Social Science Survey 1993: Inequality II User's Guide for the Machine-Readable Data File SSDA Study No. D960**

*This file is the sixth in the National Social Science Survey (NSSS) series and is a panel of respondents from the*

National Social Science Survey 1989/90: Family and Changing Sex Roles and the National Social Science Survey 1990: Lifestyles, and repeats many of the questions asked in the previous rounds. The survey also includes questions asked as part of the International Social Survey Programme. Comparative data from all countries in the Programme are processed and distributed by the Zentralarchiv fur Empirische Sozialforschung (ZA) at the University of Cologne (ZA Study 2150, Religion, 1991, ZA Study 2310, Inequality II 1992).

The data file contains a wide range of attitudinal questions. Sections cover attitudes to government policies; trade unionism; attitudes to political leaders, parties and election issues; voting and party identification; feeling thermometer ratings of political leaders, groups and institutions; experience of crime; church services; parents' participation in cultural activities when respondent was growing up, and respondents participation in those activities then and now; standard of living when growing up and now; freedom of the Press; leisure activities; courtship and marriage; abortion; attitudes to medical ethics and preventable diseases.

The Inequality module covers perceived prerequisites for success; social mobility; importance of hierarchical pay structure; estimates of actual and ideal salaries for various work positions; appropriateness of tax levels; conflicts between social groups; deciding factors in pay rates; actual and ideal social structure, and respondents' position in the structure.

The Religion module focuses on the impact of religious beliefs and behaviours on social, political and moral attitudes. Variables include government responsibility; sexual relations; working women; belief in God, the Devil, heaven, hell and life after death; the influence of religious leaders on voting and government decisions; church attendance and involvement in other religious activities; image of God and image of the world.

Background variables include respondents' education and qualifications, income and standard of

living, trade union membership, religion, and the education of the respondents' parents and the religion of the respondents' spouse.

The SSDA is currently taking orders for this new data set. User's may also access this data set via our OASISS site (URL - <http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/oasiss.html>) to run frequency distributions, cross-tabulations and recoding of variables.

## News from the ABS

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

### Recent ABS Confidentialised Unit Record Files<sup>1</sup>

In recent years the ABS has made available to approved users Confidentialised Unit Record Files (CURFs) containing unidentifiable individual statistical records from various household surveys. Below is a listing of ABS CURFs that have been made available in the more recent years and their respective prices.

The files are released in accordance with a Determination under the Census and Statistics Act. With all such releases, the recipient of each release must give an undertaking that, amongst other things, the information will be used for statistical purposes only and will not be copied and passed on to other persons. The authority to release is a discretionary power and all releases are approved by the Statistician.

Anyone interested in obtaining copies of these files should contact (06) 252 6622 to obtain order forms which also contain the undertaking to be completed.

TITLE	\$
1991 Census - Household Sample File*	5000
Families in Australia, 1992*	5000
Time Use Survey, Australia, 1992*	5000
Survey on Rental Tenants, 1994	5200
Rental Investors' Survey, 1993	5000
Australian Housing Survey, 1994	5200
National Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Survey, 1994	5500

TITLE	\$
Disability, Ageing and Carers Unit Record File, 1993	5500
Household Expenditure Survey, Australia, 1993-94 <sup>(a)</sup>	7600

<sup>a)</sup> The file contains adjustments for the effects of government benefits on income. The file is also available without these adjustments for 7,600. [Editor's Note: These files are available, for non-commercial, research and teaching purposes, to academic users at half-price (or less) under an arrangement between the ABS and The Australian National University (i.e. the Social Science Data Archives, RSSS. Contact the SSDA for details.)]

Depending on the survey, the files are available on magnetic tape, floppy disk and/or CD-ROM.

Releases expected to be approved during 1997 include the 1995 Health and Nutrition Survey and the 1994/95 Survey of Income and Housing Costs. It is anticipated that these, and other new, CURFs will have a purchase price of \$7500.

<sup>1</sup>Email message from Information Services at the ABS. 12 March 1997.

## CDATA 96

CDATA96 builds on the success of CDATA91 - using the popular Mapinfo software package to give easy access to the information collected in the recent Census. With CDATA96, you'll be able to see the latest figures on our society: age, education, housing, income, transport, religion, ethnicity, occupation, and more, from a single collection district to an entire state or territory.

CDATA96 will contain Community Profile data for a wide range of geographic areas from collection district (about 200 households) to total Australia.

The Mapinfo software is designed to accommodate both the inexperienced and the sophisticated user. Standard CDATA functions such as selecting a table and geographic area, retrieving data, and graphing or mapping the results by clicking on an icon. A Structured Query Language interface will also be available allowing customisation of tables plus extended mathematical and geographical analysis.

CDATA96 will be available for Australia or individual states and territories, and the first release is expected in September 1997.

What Figures - Issue No. 9, September, 1996

## Aspects of Literacy: Profiles and Perceptions, Australia, 1996

Aspects of Literacy: Profiles and Perceptions will be the first publication available from the data collected in the Survey of Aspects of Literacy, which is the first large scale, national survey conducted on this topic. A key element of the survey is the direct, objective assessment of literacy skills using examples of commonplace tasks of varying difficulty drawn from a range of topic and knowledge areas. The assessment is complemented with a large set of background information about the population.

The objectives of the survey are to provide a detailed literacy profile of the Australian population aged between 15 and 74 years. Aspects of Australians' literacy skills can be profiled against details such as educational attainment, labour force experience and status, ethnicity, socio-economic characteristics, self perception of literacy skills and literacy practices. This background detail alone provides extensive information about people and literacy in Australia.

Aspects of Literacy: Profiles and Perceptions profiles the Australian population and focuses on people's perceptions of their literacy skills:

Profile of Self Perception of Literacy Skills - covering socio-demographics, education and employment; Profile of Languages - covering usage of languages other than English and non-English speaking people's perception of their literacy skills in their first language; and Literacy Practices - covering literacy activities in daily life, literacy activities in the workplace and literacy activities with which some people need help.

This publication will be released in late April 1997.

Catalogue No. 4226.0, Cost: \$20

Contact: Pam Lee (06) 252 6156 or email: [pam.lee@abs.gov.au](mailto:pam.lee@abs.gov.au).

## 1995 National Health Survey: Results Now available

Results of the 1995 National Health Survey are now available with the release of the publication *First Results* (ABS Cat. No. 4392.0). This publication contains national estimates for the major topics covered in the survey - indicators of health status, health-related actions taken, health risk factors and supplementary women's health topics.

Also currently available is the publication *National Health Survey: User's Guide* (ABS Cat. No. 4364.0) which provides a detailed description of the survey.

A *Data Reference Package*, containing the questionnaires used in the survey, output data item lists and other material aimed at encouraging best use of the data, is also now available.

Contact: Brian Richings (06) 252 5786 or Ilona Brockway (06) 252 6086.

*Health Statistics News - Issue No. 30, December 1996.*

### Statistical Concepts Reference Library

The new *Statistical Concepts Reference Library* gives you quick and easy access to authoritative information about Australian statistics. It describes the concepts, sources and methods used to compile the nation's major economic and social statistics.

Available on CD-ROM, the library is a collection of major ABS reference books. Each explains what a particular statistic measures, how it is produced, how it relates to other economic or social information, where it is published, and the factors that influence its accuracy and reliability.

The CD-ROM includes separate books on the National Accounts, the Population Census, The Consumer Price Index (CPI), the Balance of Payments and many other important topics.

The information is invaluable if you need to analyse and interpret current Australian statistics. Easy to use software facilitates research. Some of the features of the package are advanced searching tools, electronic bookmarking plus copying and printing facilities.

Catalogue No. 1361.30.001, CD-ROM, Cost: \$40.

*What Figures - Issue No. 9, September, 1996*

### Australians and the Environment

*Australians and the Environment* is a reference book that examines the relationship between the natural environment, Australia's population, and the economy.

This 400 page publication brings together information and statistics from a range of sources in order to provide a large and credible set of information that can be used to understand today's environmental issues. The detailed contents will supplement your knowledge of the sustainable development debate, while adding depth to your personal knowledge of environment issues, great and small.

*Australians and the Environment* is an essential publication for anyone with an interest in

environmental issues. From students to researchers, policy analysts to legislators, business people to community groups, all will gain insight into the facts surrounding the environment debate.

Catalogue No. 4601.0, Cost: \$44.

*What Figures - Issue No. 9, September, 1996*

### Recent Additions to SSDA Holdings

Additions to the SSDA holdings are listed below. Please note that some of these carry an Access Category which should be read 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 permission in writing of the original depositor of the data, or an authorised representative, before publishing any interpretation of such materials

**tba:** to be advised (Access Category not determined).

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

Data can be ordered via the SSDA's WWW pages at [http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/data\\_order\\_form.html](http://ssda.anu.edu.au/ssda/data_order_form.html), or in writing, or by E-Mail. Intending users should specify particular floppy disk, FTP or download requirements, if applicable, when ordering. Charges for data can be supplied on request.

\*\*\*\*\*  
Hall, Nellie, Anderson, Michaela, Major, Klaus, Office of the Director of Equal Opportunity in Public Employment. **Public Sector Equal Opportunity Survey, 1990.** (SSDA Study No. 798)

The 1990 Equal Employment (EEO) Survey was conducted to determine progress under the EEO

program of the NSW State government and to provide information about employment patterns and opportunities within the institutions of the higher education sector. The study was designed to provide representative information on the employment experiences of women, Aboriginal people, people of non-English speaking background and people with physical disabilities in the higher education sector.

Topics investigated were employment details, income, promotion prospects, differential treatment of males and females, differential treatment of minority groups, training and development courses and own education. Language skills (proficiency in English, first language of parents) and details of any disabilities were also recorded. The questionnaire asked respondents about their experiences (if any) of discrimination in their current employment.

Background variables include respondents age, sex, geographical location, birthplace and educational status.

**Access Category: A**

Mulvey, G. Dr, Temple-Smith, M. Mrs, Centre for Study of Sexually Transmissible Diseases, La Trobe University. **Victorian General Practitioners' Knowledge of Sexually Transmissible Diseases, 1995.** (SSDA Study No. 956)

The purpose of this study was to collect information on General Practitioner knowledge and standard practice in relation to sexually transmissible diseases. The information gained will be used in planning education strategies for undergraduates and GPs and to aid the development of health promotion programs and interventions.

The main variables investigated were sexual history taking by GPs, GP knowledge of STD symptomatology, GP knowledge of treatment of STDs, and GP knowledge of STDs in relation to public health and epidemiology.

Background variables include age, place of birth, qualifications, time in general practice and frequency of STD cases.

**Access Category: A**

Anderson, Don, The Australian National University. **Sources of Academics' Qualifications, 1992.** (SSDA Study No. 957)

The purpose of this study was to identify and explore some broad contours of qualifications in academia-levels, sources, mobility- and compare these characteristics through time. The study aimed to

examine the range of qualifications held by academic staff, as demonstrated by the institution/country of primary degree, and the pattern of mobility between primary and postgraduate degree study. Information was obtained from staff handbooks, calendars, faxes and The Australian Tertiary Handbook Collection On Microfiche (ATHCOM) on the entire population of Australian academic staff members (lecturer and above). Information collected included the location of first qualification, the level and location of highest qualification, and qualification field.

Background variables include academics' institution and sex.

**Access Category: A**

Pocock, Barbara, Centre for Labour Studies, University of Adelaide. **Union Membership in South Australia, 1993.** (SSDA Study No. 961)

Women form a lower level of union membership than men, representing a major recruitment challenge to unions. Unions are currently employing a number of different tactics to recruit and involve women, and this study aims to help refine those strategies by asking: are women less pro-union than men, do they join unions for different reasons to men, do they use and are they as happy with their unions as men, are they less active in their unions than men and why and what can be done to increase their level of activism.

Union members in six unions in South Australia were surveyed. Main variables were respondents' involvement in unions, what motivated it, what restricted it, and what unions could do to make things easier for their members to be involved.

Background variables include sex, age, occupation and income

**Access Category: A**

Sheldon, Linda, Loncar, Milica, Ramsay, Gillian, Australian Broadcasting Authority. **Children's Attitudes to Television, 1993.** (SSDA Study No. 963)

This research study is the first part of a larger project which looks at the overall picture of what children like and dislike about television. The data represents the quantitative stage of the study on children's attitudes to violence, kissing and swearing on television. The research technique involved taking small groups of primary school students through a self-complete questionnaire. A follow-up stage with the parents of the children surveyed was conducted

after the child survey. The research looks at the issues from a child's perspective. Children were asked questions relating to the timing and frequency of their television viewing; what programs/issues they do not like to view; the degree to which they perceived rules and routines were imposed upon them about their television viewing; what they were concerned about in television programs; and their attitudes to television classification issues such as depictions of swearing, violence, kissing and nudity. Parents were asked similar questions for comparative purposes.

Background variables for both the children's survey and parent's survey include age and sex.

**Access Category: A**

Nugent, Stephen, Cupitt, Margaret, Australian Broadcasting Authority. **R-Classified Programs on Pay TV, 1993.** (SSDA Study No. 965)

The study has a legislative basis set out in Schedule 2, Part 6, Clause 10 (1)(g) of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992. It requires the Australian Broadcasting Authority to conduct research and make a recommendation to Parliament about the broadcast of R-rated programs on pay TV.

Research Abstract Clause 10(1)(g) of Schedule 2 of the Broadcasting Services Act 1992 requires the Australian Broadcasting Authority to complete extensive, Australia-wide quantitative and qualitative research into community standards on pay TV. The data represents the quantitative stage of research on community standards of taste and decency in relation to classifications for pay TV and on what levels of violence and depiction of sex should be allowed.

The questionnaire sought the following information about people's behaviour and attitudes: current video and cinema viewing habits; understanding of the R-rated classification; experience of viewing R-rated material; likelihood of self and others subscribing to pay TV; attitudes to adult viewing of R-rated material; perception of effects of R-rated material on self and others; attitudes towards a range of controls and consumer safeguards regarding R-rated material; attitudes towards parental supervision and use of access controls as opposed to the exclusion of R-rated material on pay TV; and (parental) methods of influencing children's current television viewing and likely use of access controls in relation to pay TV.

Background variables include respondent's age, sex, marital status, occupation, income and level of education.

**Access Category: A**

Mitchell-Taverner, P., Adams, K., RAMIS Corporation Pty Ltd. **Community Attitudes to Road Safety, 1993.** (SSDA Study No. 968)

This study is the seventh in a series of similar national studies since 1986. It was conducted for the Federal Office of Road Safety to monitor community attitudes to various aspects of road safety.

The main variables were, attitudes towards cause of accidents, random breath testing and blood alcohol levels, license holding and driving, speeding, occupant restraints and involvement in road accidents.

Background variables include occupation, education, sex and age.

**Access Category: A**

Jordan, Peter K., Counselling Section, Family Court of Australia (Brisbane). **The Effects of Marital Separation on Men, 1984.** (SSDA Study No. 972)

The purpose of this research was to assess the immediate and long-term affects of marital separation on males. This study forms the start of a longitudinal overview of mens' coping processes used in response to separation. The main variables were, physical and psychological well-being, coping with the day to day living routines, effects of loss of husband and/or father roles, change in attitudes and beliefs.

Background variables include age, place of birth, occupation, marriage record and number of children.

**Access Category: B**

Jordan, Peter K., Counselling Section, Family Court of Australia (Brisbane). **The Effects of Marital Separation on Men - 10 Years on 1984-1994.** (SSDA Study No. 973)

This research investigated men's attitudes, feelings and reactions to separation/divorce over a 10-year period. It assessed the situation of men who had separated in the early 1980's and men who separated in the early 1990s. It also compared the same sample of men over a 10-year time span to see what changes had occurred since their original separation. The research sought to establish who made decisions about separating, what help was sought, and to establish what factors may contribute to men not coping with marital separation. The main variables were physical and psychological well-being, coping with day to day living activities, loss of husband and/or father roles, attitudes and beliefs.

Background variables include age, place of birth, occupation, marriage record and number of children.

**Access Category: B**

## ICPSR Additions

The following titles have been extracted from the ICPSR Bulletins of September and December 1996. Data sets are not currently held by the SSDA, but may be ordered from ICPSR on request. Contact the SSDA for more details.

Adjusting the National Crime Victimization Survey's Estimates of Rape and Domestic Violence for "Gag" Factors, 1986-1990 (ICPSR 6558)

Alcohol Use and Abuse Among American College Students, 1993 (ICPSR 6577)

Australian Longitudinal Study of Aging, Waves 1-2 [1992-1994] (ICPSR 6707)

British Crime Survey, 1992 (ICPSR 6717)

British General Election Panel Survey, 1986-1987 (ICPSR 6450)

British General Election Panel Survey, 1987-1992 (ICPSR 6451)

British General Election Cross-Section Survey, 1992 (ICPSR 6453)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll, January 1995 (ICPSR 6556)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll #1, February 1995 (ICPSR 6554)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll #2, February 1995 (ICPSR 6553)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll #1, March 1995 (ICPSR 6552)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll #2, March 1995 (ICPSR 6551)

CBS News/New York Times Monthly Poll, April 1995 (ICPSR 6550)

CBS News/New York Times New Jersey Poll, March 1995 (ICPSR 6549)

CBS News/New York Times State of the Union Poll and Call-Back, January 1995 (ICPSR 6555)

Community Connections in Board and Care Homes Serving Chronically Ill Adults in Ten States, 1993-1994 (ICPSR 6783)

Conditions of Confinement in Juvenile Detention and Correctional Facilities: [United States], 1991 (ICPSR 6216)

Cost of Mental Health Care for Victims of Crime in the United States, 1991 (ICPSR 6581)

Current Population Survey, February 1994: Displaced Workers (ICPSR 6663)

Current Population Survey, June 1994: Fertility (ICPSR 6704)

Current Population Survey, February 1995: Contingent Work Supplement (ICPSR 6736)

Domestic Terrorism: Assessment of State and Local Preparedness in the United States, 1992 (ICPSR 6566)

Dutch Parliamentary Election Panel Study, 1989-1994 (ICPSR 6741)

Dutch Parliamentary Election Studies Data Source Book, 1971-1989 (ICPSR 6744)

Dutch Parliamentary Election Study, 1994 (ICPSR 6740)

Dynamics of Population Aging in Economic Commission for Europe (ECE) Countries, Census Microdata Samples: Estonia, 1989 (ICPSR 6780)

Extended National Assessment Survey of Law Enforcement Anti-Gang Information Resources, 1993-1994 (ICPSR 6565)

Four-County Study of Chinese Local Government and Political Economy, 1990 (ICPSR 6805)

French National Election Study, 1995 (ICPSR 6806)

Investigating the Extent and Conditions of Reproductive Health Service Coverage in Private-Sector Insurance, 1993: [United States] (ICPSR 6564)

Juvenile Court Statistics, 1993: [United States] (ICPSR 6715)

Law Enforcement Management and Administrative Statistics (LEMAS), 1993 (ICPSR 6708)

Longitudinal Study of Violent Criminal Behavior in the United States, 1970-1984 (ICPSR 6103)

Management of Sex Offenders by Probation and Parole Agencies in the United States, 1994 (ICPSR 6627)

Measuring Crime Rates of Prisoners in Colorado, 1988-1989 (ICPSR 9989)

Memphis New Mothers Study, 1990-1994 (ICPSR 6782)

Minimal Hearing Loss in Children, 1991-1994: [Davidson County, Tennessee] (ICPSR 6573)

Mortality Detail File, 1992 (ICPSR 6798)

Multiple Cause of Death, 1993 (ICPSR 6799)

Natality Detail File, 1988 [United States] (ICPSR 6651)

Natality Detail File, 1989 [United States] (ICPSR 6652)

Natality Detail File, 1990 [United States] (ICPSR 6653)

Natality Detail File, 1991 [United States] (ICPSR 6654)

Natality Detail File, 1992 [United States] (ICPSR 6655)

National Ambulatory Medical Care Survey, 1993 (ICPSR 6725)

National Assessment Survey of Law Enforcement Anti-Gang Information Resources, 1990-1991 (ICPSR 6237)