

SPECIAL NOTE ABOUT THE 1979 PILOT CODEBOOK

This codebook was converted to Acrobat .PDF format prior to the renumbering of variables for all studies present on the NES 1948-1997 CDROM.

Please note that the SAS/SPSS data definition files for this study have variables renumbered, although the .PDF study codebooks does not. Variables have been renumbered in the data definition files to the following format:

2-digit (or 2-char) prefix + 4 digits + [optional] 1-char suffix

In most cases, the prefix consists of a 2-digit representation of the year to which the variable applies. For the 1979 Pilot, all variables have the prefix "79" (beginning with variable V790001).

Also, multiple response variables which were previously numbered with suffixes "M1", "M2" etc. are now numbered with suffixes "A", "B", "C" etc., so that (for example) 1948 study variable V14M1 has become V480014A.

GENERAL NOTE ABOUT CODEBOOKS: the variable name references used in NES Study codebooks do not include the "V" prefix found in all variable names used within the SAS and SPSS data definition files (.sas and .sps files) as released with Study data. For example, V920001 in the SAS/SPSS data definition files corresponds to "920001" in the 1992 codebook.

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ER FOR POLITICAL STUDIES/INSTITUTE FOR SOCIAL RESEARCH/THE UNIVERSITY OF MICHIGAN/
BOX 1248, ANN ARBOR, MICHIGAN 48106 313-763-1347

May 8, 1979

NES/CPS Spring 1979 Pilot Study

In conjunction with research and development efforts for the 1980 National Election Study, the Center for Political Studies recently conducted a small national pilot survey utilizing 30 primary sampling units. Respondents were interviewed in March and reinterviewed in April. Each wave of interviewing employed two questionnaire forms administered to different half-samples. Copies of the questionnaire forms are enclosed here with a summary of content for each form.

Field Work

Wave I field work began on March 5 and ended on March 16. Wave II field work was carried out from March 26 to April 13. The results are summarized below:

	<u>Wave I</u>		<u>Wave II</u>			
	Interviews Obtained	Targeted Number	Reinterviews		Other Non- interviews	Response Rate
			Granted	Refusals		
Form A	139	150 (5 interviews per primary area)	123	9	7	88.5%
Form B	141	150 (5 interviews per primary area)	113	15	13	80.1%

Coding

Coding was done by the study staff. The coding of all Wave I and Wave II interviews was completed in late April. The data are now undergoing processing, where processing consists of: sorting and checking the merge of decks, frequencies to check for wild codes, a minimal amount of checking to validate the structural and substantive aspects of coding, and the merge of Wave I and Wave II data records for each of the questionnaire forms.

Building of Integrated Analysis File

The clean, raw data files will be subjected to further data manipulations in order to produce one integrated analysis file for the Pilot Study data. This integrated file will eliminate the inconvenience resulting from the existence of two distinct data files during analysis--one file for Form A and another for Form B. The integrated analysis file will free users

from the need to create special subfiles to pool the data for those questions asked in identical fashion of both Form A and Form B respondents, either at Wave I or Wave II.

Documentation and Data Characteristics

The integrated Pilot Study analysis file will consist of approximately 900 variables and 280 data cases. Respondents who refused the reinterviews will be padded with "missing data" values for Wave II. The data will be available in one format only--EBCDIC (character) mode with one data record per respondent. (In other words, no card-image file is currently planned for the integrated Pilot Study data file.) Also, no further routine data processing or "cleaning" is planned for these data; it is expected that this version will be the only data file distributed.

Documentation for the file consists primarily of a multilith copy of the coders' codebook. A data map outlining variable record locations will be included as part of the documentation.

Distribution

The integrated Pilot Study file will be distributed by Consortium Member Services as a Class IV data set; the file will be available in mid- to late May.

Consortium members may order the data free of charge through their Official Representatives.

Non-Consortium members can order the Pilot Study data at a cost of \$100, including the tape. (Users whose computer installations prefer use of their own tapes may forward a tape.) Orders should be address to: Janet Vavra, Member Services, Inter-university Consortium for Political and Social Research, Box 1248, Ann Arbor, Michigan 48106 (telephone: area code 313-763-5010). Checks or purchase orders should be made payable to the Center for Political Studies.

Extra copies of the documentation for all users are priced at \$10; orders for extra copies should be prepaid to CPS or included in the purchase order.

User Tape Specifications: Tapes for ICPSR member institutions will be written at the specifications on file at the Consortium unless instructed otherwise. Users at nonmember institutions are asked to complete an NES Tape Information Form and return it with their order.