
Disclaimers for Using Datasets from the Preference Parameters Study in the US by Osaka University

Among the data we collected for Preference Parameters Study in the US by Osaka University, it has been confirmed that there are considerable amounts of survey responses that could have been collected from the different individuals in the same households across the multiple survey years. Accordingly, we acknowledge that there could be potential problems in using the data for a continuation panel study by the same individuals. We hereby report on what has been confirmed so far by investigating this problem;

- As the surveys in the United States were conducted as parts of a continuation survey by the same groups of households, the identification numbers of survey respondents in the datasets are used to identify the respective households. Therefore, the same identification numbers used across the multiple survey years do not necessarily identify the individuals.
- The number and the proportion of the responses that could be collected from different individuals in the same households across two consecutive years are indicated in the table below (See the blue highlighted "Unmatched respondents" and "Proportion of unmatched respondents"). Above all, the numbers skyrocketed in 2012 and 2013.
- These inconsistencies in datasets could be attributed to the collection methods of survey panels, the period of collecting information about survey panels' personal attributes, and the possibility that other household members in the same household answered the survey.

We sincerely apologize for any inconveniences regarding this matter. We will keep providing the information regarding the identification numbers of the inconsistent datasets. We will also keep informing you about the further concerns for using the datasets on this website.

Inconsistent respondents

| Year | | 2005 | 2006 | 2007 | 2008 | 2009 | 2010 | 2011 | 2012 | 2013 |
|---|--|--------|---------|---------|---------|----------------|---------|---------|---------|---------|
| Job Number | | #61646 | #137074 | #157590 | #176202 | #191389/191390 | #205677 | #222240 | #226908 | #231221 |
| Sample size (A) | | 4979 | 3120 | 4711 | 3508 | 10708 | 7046 | 5313 | 3653 | 5079 |
| The number of respondents who participated both in the survey from the previous (t-1) and current (t) years (B) | The number of survey responses identifiable and comparable with the responses from the same household collected in the previous year | — | 2441 | 1560 | 2303 | 2223 | 5697 | 4238 | 3027 | 2659 |
| The number of inconsistent respondents (C) | Gender or age (+/- 2 years) inconsistent with the survey responses from the previous year | — | 0 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 12 | 12 | 140 | 938 |
| % of inconsistent respondents | (C)/(B) | — | 0% | 0.1% | 0.04% | 0.1% | 0.2% | 0.3% | 4.6% | 35.3% |

Details of inconsistent respondents

| | | | | | | | | | |
|---|--|--|---|---|---|----|---|----|-----|
| Inconsistent gender indicated in the responses | | | 6 | 1 | 0 | 2 | 6 | 23 | 250 |
| Inconsistent age indicated in the responses | | | 0 | 0 | 3 | 10 | 1 | 79 | 280 |
| Inconsistent gender and age identified in the responses | | | 0 | 0 | 0 | 0 | 5 | 38 | 408 |

Procedure of identifying inconsistent respondents

- Gender and age of the respondents are based on what they claim in the survey sheet
- Inconsistent survey responses are identified only in case that we are able to obtain the answers of gender or age both in the survey from the previous and current years. Responses without the information about gender and age in the surveys either in the previous or the current year are not included in inconsistent survey responses since it is unable to compare those attributes in these two consecutive years.
- Since gender was not asked in the survey sheet in 2006, the information about the gender of intended respondents are alternatively used for the investigation. Given this limited information about the gender of the respondents, the information about the respondents' birth month is also used as an identifier in addition to gender and age. Accordingly, respondents are identified as inconsistent if their indicated gender, age (+/- 2 years old) or birth month is unidentical.