## The R EdSurvey Package

Analyzing NAEP and TIMSS Data Using R: Day 4

Presenters: Sinan Yavuz, Ting Zhang, Emmanuel Sikali

October 2021



## Workshop Goal

Provide participants with an overview of the methods used to analyze national and international large-scale assessment data using the R package EdSurvey

Follow along in edsurvey\_training\_day4.R

## Outline of EdSurvey Workshop - Part 1

#### Data Analysis and Modeling

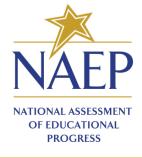
- Achievement-level analysis
- Gap analysis
- Doing your own analyses using NAEP/TIMSS data

#### Other Topics

- How to get NAEP Restricted-Use Data;
- NAEP funding streams and opportunities
- Challenges and opportunities in NAEP that NCES has identified as needing innovative research and applications

#### **Conclusing Remarks**

# Achievement Level Analysis



## Achievement Level Analysis and Benchmark Analysis

#### NAEP

• Intended to measure to what extent students' achievement matches the expected achievement defined in the NAEP assessment frameworks

#### TIMSS

• Uses *international benchmarks* as defined in the TIMSS assessment frameworks

• Related Documentation - Analyses-Using-Achievement-Levels-Based-on-Plausible-Values-NAEP-April-2017.pdf

## Achievement Level Analysis and Benchmark Analysis

#### NAEP

• Three levels - *Basic*, *Proficient*, and *Advanced* - are defined for each subject and each grade, with cut scores for each level determined through a standard-setting process.

#### TIMSS

- Four levels *Low*, *Intermediate*, *High*, and *Advanced* are defined for each subject and each grade, with cut scores for each level
- Standard-setting process presented in two ways
  - Discrete percentage at an achievement level
  - Cumulative percentage at or above an achievement level

#### Discrete vs. Cumulative - NAEP

- Discrete vs. Cumulative
  - Discrete: the percentage of students performing within each achievement level, counted separately from the other levels. These categories are the percentages of students scoring below Basic, at Basic, at Proficient, and at Advanced. The percentages at all mutually exclusive achievement levels add up to 100 percent
  - Cumulative: the percentage of students performing at or above each achievement level. These categories are percentages of students scoring below Basic, at or above Basic, at or above Proficient, and at Advanced. Except below Basic and at Advanced, the other two cumulative levels include students at the specific and all higher levels. Since they are not mutually exclusive, it is not meaningful to add all of these four percentages of cumulative achievement levels.

#### Discrete vs. Cumulative - TIMSS

- Discrete vs. Cumulative
  - Discrete: the percentage of students performing within each benchmark, counted separately from the other levels. These categories are the percentages of students scoring below *Low*, at *Low*, at *Intermediate*, at *High*, and at *Advanced*. The percentages at all mutually exclusive benchmarks add up to 100 percent
  - Cumulative: the percentage of students performing at or above each benchmark. These categories are percentages of students scoring below Low, at or above Low, at or above Intermediate, at or above High, and at Advanced. Except below Low and at Advanced, the other three cumulative levels include students at the specific and all higher levels. Since they are not mutually exclusive, it is not meaningful to add all of these four percentages of cumulative benchmarks

#### Loading NAEP and TIMSS

#### Achievement Level Analysis

achievementLevels(): computes the percentages of students by achievement level (at or above the achievement level cut points). See details in ?achievementLevels.

- Each NAEP data set coded with year's cut points
  - use showCutPoints() to print a summary

```
showCutPoints(sdf)

## Achievement Levels:
## Mathematics: 262, 299, 333

showCutPoints(TIMSS19)

## Achievement Levels:
## Low International Benchmark: 400
## Intermediate International Benchmark: 475
## High International Benchmark: 550
## Advanced International Benchmark: 625
```

#### Discrete vs Cumulative - NAEP

```
ach <- achievementLevels("composite", data = sdf,</pre>
                                         returnCumulative = TRUE)
 ach
## AchievementVars: composite
## Achievement Level Cutpoints:
## 262 299 333
##
## Plausible values: 5
## jrrIMax: 1
## Weight variable: 'origwt'
## Variance method: jackknife
## JK replicates: 62
## full data n: 17606
## n used: 16915
##
##
## Discrete
## composite Level
                      N wtdN Percent StandardError
       Below Basic 5731.2 5779.5052 34.132690
                                             0.9744207
```

#### Discrete vs Cumulative - NAEP

• To get only discrete or only cumulative summary tables

```
ach$discrete
ach$cumulative
```

• You can identify your cut-points

#### Discrete vs Cumulative - TIMSS

• We can summarize similar tables for TIMSS

```
achievementLevels("mmat", data = TIMSS19, returnCumulative = TRUE)
## AchievementVars: mmat
## Achievement Level Cutpoints:
## 400 475 550 625
##
## Plausible values: 5
## jrrIMax: 1
## Weight variable: 'totwgt'
## Variance method: jackknife
## JK replicates: 150
## full data n: 10115
## n used: 8776
##
##
## Discrete
##
                               mmat Level
                                                           Percent StandardError
         Below Low International Benchmark 628.0 257375.1 6.835698
                                                                      0.5524873
            At Low International Benchmark 1511.6 624576.3 16.588297
                                                                      0.7504469
   At Intermediate International Benchmark 2704.4 1151681.9 30.587841
                                                                      0.6580029
##
           At High International Benchmark 2732.8 1207739.0 32.076676
                                                                      1.0201220
       At Advanced International Benchmark 1199.2 523790.1 13.911488
                                                                      0.7492847
```

#### **Additional Covariates**

• A covariate can be added

```
ach1 <- achievementLevels(c("composite", "dsex"), data = sdf)</pre>
 ach1$discrete
    composite Level dsex
                                   wtdN Percent StandardError
## 1
        Below Basic Male 2880.8 2865.6455 16.923973
                                                     0.5590578
## 2
          At Basic Male 3266.2 3236.4034 19.113601
                                                     0.4993938
      At Proficient Male 1877.2 1910.7861 11.284749
                                                     0.4091708
       At Advanced Male 461.8 499.1392 2.947824
## 4
                                                     0.2579418
        Below Basic Female 2850.4 2913.8597 17.208717
## 5
                                                     0.6094830
## 6
          At Basic Female 3429.4 3343.8146 19.747951
                                                     0.4428114
      At Proficient Female 1788.8 1783.9704 10.535800
                                                     0.4126107
## 8
        At Advanced Female 360.4 378.8444 2.237385
                                                     0.1944887
```

## Aggregate by Additional Covariates

- Aggregate by selected characteristics
  - the percentage distribution of students by achievement levels (discrete or cumulative) and selected characteristics (specified in aggregateBy)

```
ach2 <- achievementLevels(c("composite", "dsex"),</pre>
                                          aggregateBy = "dsex", data = sdf)
 ach2$discrete
    composite Level
                                   wtdN Percent StandardError
## 1
       Below Basic Male 2880.8 2865.6455 33.666050
                                                    1.0951825
          At Basic Male 3266.2 3236.4034 38.021772
                                                    0.9537470
      At Proficient Male 1877.2 1910.7861 22.448213
                                                    0.7257305
       At Advanced Male 461.8 499.1392 5.863965
                                                    0.5081607
       Below Basic Female 2850.4 2913.8597 34.604399
## 5
                                                    1.1154848
          At Basic Female 3429.4 3343.8146 39.710456
                                                    0.8650729
      At Proficient Female 1788.8 1783.9704 21.186066
                                                    0.8148916
## 8
       At Advanced Female 360.4 378.8444 4.499079
                                                    0.3888590
```

### Aggregate by Subject Scale

- Aggregate by a subject scale or subscale
  - the percentage distribution of students by selected characteristics *within* a specific achievement level.

```
ach3 <- achievementLevels(c("composite", "dsex"),</pre>
                                          aggregateBy = "composite", data = sdf)
 ach3$discrete
    composite Level dsex
                                   wtdN Percent StandardError
## 1
       Below Basic Male 2880.8 2865.6455 49.58289
                                                   0.9486797
          At Basic Male 3266.2 3236.4034 49.18383
                                                   0.8020508
      At Proficient Male 1877.2 1910.7861 51.71616
                                                   1.1913055
## 4
       At Advanced Male 461.8 499.1392 56.85063
                                                   2,0076502
## 5
       Below Basic Female 2850.4 2913.8597 50.41711
                                                   0.9486797
          At Basic Female 3429.4 3343.8146 50.81617
                                                   0.8020508
      At Proficient Female 1788.8 1783.9704 48.28384
                                                   1.1913055
       At Advanced Female 360.4 378.8444 43.14937
## 8
                                                   2,0076502
```

## Aggregate by a Variable Combination

- Aggregate by more than one variable
  - iep Student classified as having a disability

• Divides into number of **dsex** levels times number of **iep** levels, where each category adds up to 100 across achievement levels.

```
searchSDF("dsex",data = sdf, levels = TRUE)
searchSDF("iep",data = sdf, levels = TRUE)
```

#### Aggregate by a Variable Combination

#### dsex\_iep\$discrete

```
##
      composite Level
                        dsex iep
                                              wtdN
                                                      Percent StandardError
## 1
          Below Basic Male Yes
                                  810.2 753,47862 66,4635116
                                                                  2,0061208
## 2
             At Basic Male Yes
                                  281.6
                                        282,52828 24,9215056
                                                                  2,0783210
## 3
        At Proficient
                      Male Yes
                                   72.8
                                          85.69544 7.5590995
                                                                  1.4614600
                       Male Yes
## 4
         At Advanced
                                    9.4
                                         11.97026 1.0558833
                                                                  0.7673700
## 5
         Below Basic Female Yes 471.2 465.33346 76.4954517
                                                                  2,9245271
## 6
             At Basic Female Yes
                                  108.8
                                        106.71734 17.5430994
                                                                  2,0864253
## 7
        At Proficient Female Yes
                                   31.2
                                          34,36986
                                                   5,6500084
                                                                  1,6430596
## 8
         At Advanced Female Yes
                                    2.8
                                           1.89454
                                                   0.3114405
                                                                  0.2601418
                       Male No 2067.6 2111.69806 28.6261355
## 9
                                                                  1.0630715
         Below Basic
## 10
             At Basic
                       Male
                              No 2982.6 2952.86086 40.0289211
                                                                  1.0125447
        At Proficient
## 11
                       Male
                              No 1804.4 1825.09062 24.7408909
                                                                  0.7840337
## 12
         At Advanced
                       Male
                                 452.4 487.16896 6.6040524
                                                                  0.5558956
## 13
         Below Basic Female
                              No 2379.0 2448.49754 31.3451478
                                                                  1,2051321
## 14
             At Basic Female
                              No 3318.8 3236.55190 41.4336531
                                                                  0.9207178
## 15
        At Proficient Female
                             No 1757.4 1749.56228 22.3975264
                                                                  0.8954779
          At Advanced Female No 356.8 376.79678 4.8236727
## 16
                                                                  0.4233201
```

#### Summary

- Two methods to calculate percentages
  - o discrete percentage at an achievement level
  - o cumulative percentage at or above an achievement level
- You can use Covariates in one of two ways
  - the percentage distribution of students by selected characteristics *within* a specific achievement level. (aggregateBy includes a subject scale or subscale)
  - the percentage distribution of students by achievement levels and selected characteristics (specified in aggregateBy)
- See the cut points with showCutPoints()

#### Self-Reflection - achievementLevels

Ask yourself: Use EdSurvey functions to create a summary table using achievementLevels() with these parameters:

```
# for reference
help(package = "EdSurvey")
searchSDF("text", sdf)
levelsSDF("myvar", sdf)
```

- composite math performance across a variable
- aggregated by language other than English spoken in home
- the percentage of students performing at or above each achievement level

#### Self-Reflection - achievementLevels

#### Scenario Result:

```
exerciseAL <- achievementLevels(c("composite", "b018201"), aggregateBy = c(
                                                      data = sdf, returnCumulative = TRUE)
 exerciseAL$cumulative
            composite Level
                                     b018201
                                                         w+dN
                                                               Percent StandardError
## 1
               Below Basic
                                       Never 2881.2 2741.81706 29.967754
                                                                           1.1059320
          At or Above Basic
                                       Never 6642.8 6407.40734 70.032246
                                                                          1,1059320
     At or Above Proficient
                                       Never 2726.0 2694.99580 29.456003
                                                                           0.9354285
## 4
               At Advanced
                                       Never 490.6 522.99356 5.716261
                                                                           0.5301935
                              Once in a while 992.8 993.62918 29.841115
## 5
               Below Basic
                                                                          1,2790694
          At or Above Basic
                              Once in a while 2335.2 2336.10292 70.158885
                                                                          1,2790694
## 7 At or Above Proficient
                              Once in a while 1024.8 1037.94788 31.172114
                                                                           1,4081560
## 8
               At Advanced
                              Once in a while 205.4 218.33310 6.557077
                                                                           0.7432284
## 9
               Below Basic
                              Half the time 495.4 594.63374 41.495053
                                                                           2.0402629
## 10
         At or Above Basic
                                Half the time 682.6 838.38946 58.504947
                                                                           2.0402629
## 11 At or Above Proficient
                                Half the time 247.6 334.71472 23.357244
                                                                           2.0037955
                                Half the time
## 12
               At Advanced
                                             51.2
                                                     69,94572 4,880990
                                                                           0.9963799
               Below Basic All or most of time 1006.0 1225.65906 46.291461
## 13
                                                                           1,6649333
          At or Above Basic All or most of time 1127.0 1422.04104 53.708539
                                                                           1,6649333
## 15 At or Above Proficient All or most of time 341.0 455.24954 17.194151
                                                                           1,4260673
## 16
               At Advanced All or most of time 47.4
                                                     59,51578 2,247829
                                                                           0.5702864
```

# Gap Analysis: Estimating the Difference in Two Statistics



## Gap Analysis

gap(): estimate the difference in a statistic for two groups in the population. A gap occurs when one group outperforms another group and the difference in the two statistics are statistically significant.

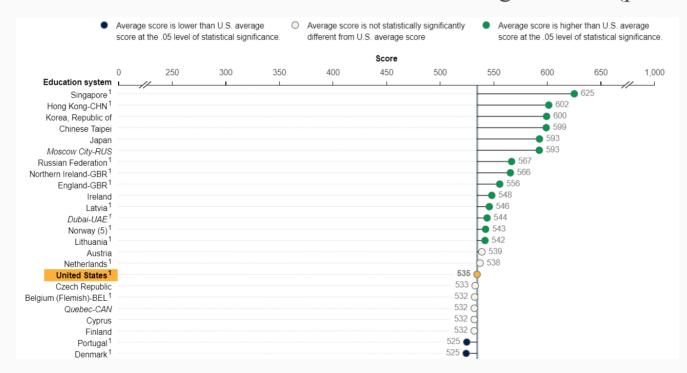
- Statistics can be any of
  - mean scores
  - student group percentages
  - achievement level percentages
  - percentiles
- Variance estimation

$$Var( heta_A - heta_B) = Var( heta_A) + Var( heta_B) - 2Cov( heta_A, heta_B)$$

- Related Documentation EdSurvey-Gap.pdf
- Related Documentation EdSurvey-TIMSS.pdf

#### **Typical Gap Comparisons**

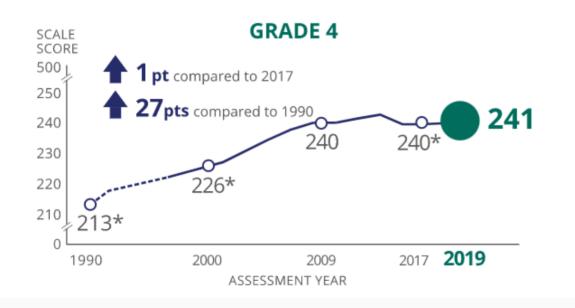
- Comparisons of different groups/jurisdictions within years
  - Female in 2019 to Male in 2019
  - USA in 2019 to Singapore in 2019
  - USA in 2019 to the international average in 2019 (part/whole)



## Typical Gap Comparisons (cont.)

- Comparisons of the same group/jurisdiction between years
  - Female in 2019 to Female in 2017
  - USA in 2019 to USA in 2017

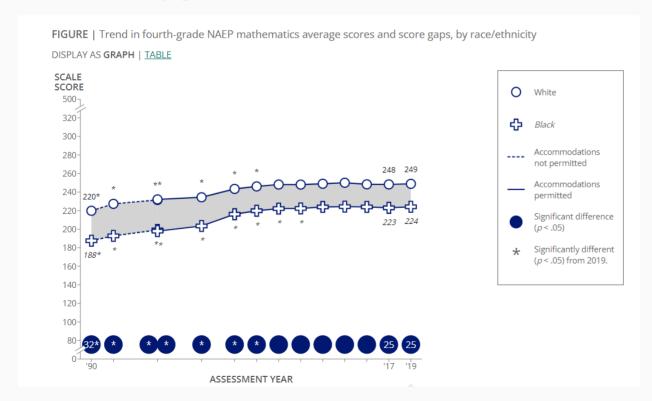
Trend in NAEP mathematics average scores, by grade



Source: NAEP Math Report 2019

## Typical Gap Comparisons (cont.)

- Comparisons of the gap of different groups/jurisdictions between years
  - The BW gap in USA in 2019 compared to the gap in USA in 2017
  - The difference between USA and Canada in 2019, compared to the same gap in 2015



### Within Year Comparisons

Comparison between students groups

- groupA: defines a condition to subset data
  - o dsex %in% "Male"
- groupB: defines a condition to subset data to compare to groupA
  - o dsex %in% "Female"

## Within Year Comparisons (cont.)

• Mean score results returned with mathGap\$results

#### mathGap\$results

```
## estimateA estimateAse estimateB estimateBse diffAB covAB diffABse diffABpValue dofAE
## 1 276.7235 0.8207151 275.0458 0.9402535 1.677756 0.5676583 0.6498719 0.01259479 53.70969
```

- estimateA / estimateB Value of estimate
- estimateAse/estimateBse Standard error of estimates
- **diffAB/diffABse** Difference between estimateA and estimateB and standard error of the difference in group estimates
- covAB The covariance used in calculating diffABse
- diffABpValue The p-value associated with the t-test used for the hypothesis test that diffAB is zero
- dofAB The degrees of freedom used in calculating diffABpValue

## Within Year Comparisons (cont.)

• Percentage results returned with mathGap\$percentage

#### mathGap\$percentage

```
## pctA pctAse pctB pctBse diffAB covAB diffABse diffABpValue dofAB ## 1 50.27015 0.5016796 49.72985 0.5016796 0.5402935 -0.2516824 1.003359 0.5924778 53.45667
```

#### Same as mathGap\$results except:

- pctA/pctB The percent of respondents in groups
- pctAse/pctBse Standard errors of the percent of respondents in groups

# Within Year, Benchamrks/Achievement levels

Comparison by achievement level

#### Within Year, Percentiles

#### Comparison by percentile

#### Between Datasets Comparisons

Workflow for conducting between datasets comparisons, including between years or between jurisdictions/educational system comparisons:

- Load the data into R
- Rename variables or recode values for consistency across datasets
- Create an edsurvey.data.frame.list with all the datafiles in it
- Recode the variable values as necessary
- Run your analysis
- Related Documentation EdSurvey-Trend.pdf
- Related Documentation EdSurvey-TIMSS.pdf

#### Between Year Comparisons

Download your TIMSS datasets

```
downloadTIMSS(year=c(2019, 2015, 2011), root = "C:/")
```

• Read in datasets from multiple years

This operation takes several minutes to run the first time and then runs nearly instantly after that. Subsequent calls to **readTIMSS** are stored on the user's drive for easy access.

• Combine data from each year into an edsurvey.data.frame.list and assign a label to each year.

• Check for data consistency across datasets.

• Recode or rename if inconsistencies identified.

• Update the trend datasets

• Run gap analysis between years

```
mathGap4 <- gap(variable = 'mmat', data = trend2)</pre>
mathGap4$results
      labels estimateA estimateAse
                             diffAA covAA diffAAse diffAApValue
                                                        dofAA sameSurvey
## 1 TIMSS 2019 534.7324
                    2.550249
                               NA
 2 TIMSS 2015 539.1556
                    2.231920 -4.423178
                                     FALSE
## 3 TIMSS 2011 540.6493
                    1.816651 -5.916884
                                     FALSE
```

- estimateA Value of estimate for each year
- estimateAse Standard error of estimates for each year
- **diffAA** and **diffAAse** Difference between two years and standard error of the difference.
- covAA The covariance used in calculating diffAAse
- **diffAApValue** The p-value associated with the t-test used for the hypothesis test that diffAA is zero
- dofAA The degrees of freedom used in calculating diffABpValue

- Change the reference group
  - By default, the gap function treats the first data in an edsurvey.data.frame.list as the reference data.
  - We can use the referenceDataIndex argument to change the reference to another data. For example, set referenceDataIndex argument = 2 to make the second data as the reference data.

```
mathGap5 <- gap(variable = 'mmat', data = trend,</pre>
                        referenceDataIndex = 2)
mathGap5$results
       labels estimateA estimateAse diffAA covAA diffAAse diffAApValue
                                                                 dofAA sameSurvey
## 1 TIMSS 2019 534.7324
                       2.550249 4.423178
                                          0 3.388988
                                                      0.1930360 250.3516
                                                                          FALSE
  2 TIMSS 2015 539.1556
                       2.231920
                                                                            NA
## 3 TIMSS 2011 540.6493
                       1.816651 -1.493707
                                          0 2.877792
                                                      0.6042789 208.5829
                                                                          FALSE
```

## Comparisons of the Gap Between Years

Gap results

```
trendGap <- gap(variable = "mmat",</pre>
                         data = trend2,
                          groupA = itsex %in% "MALE",
                          groupB = itsex %in% "FEMALE")
 trendGap$results
                                                      diffAB
                                                               covAB diffABse diffABpValue
                                                                                                   diffAA covAA
       labels estimateA estimateAse estimateB estimateBse
                                                                                           dofAB
## 1 TIMSS 2019 540.1785
                         2.902865 529.0473
                                            2.969877 11.131165 4.638792 2.822980 1.763565e-04 76.77150
                                                                                                            NΔ
## 2 TIMSS 2015 542,6617
                         2.501978 535.7482 2.312608
                                                    6.913450 4.068738 1.862948 3.199990e-04 114.68273 -2.483171
## 3 TIMSS 2011 545.0321
                         1.888004 536.3852
                                            2.091729 8.646838 2.586252 1.663546 1.459974e-06 81.63345 -4.853573
    diffAAse diffAApValue
                          dofAA
                                 diffBB covBB diffBBse diffBBpValue
                                                                  dofBB diffABAB covABAB diffABABse diffABABpValue
## 1
         NA
                            NA
                                                  NA
                                                                             NA
                                                                                              NA
                                                                                                           NA
## 2 3.832300
              0.5181810 127.0670 -6.700886
                                           3.382276
                                                                                                     0.2144723
## 3 3.462829
              0.1639786 104.9637 -7.337900
                                         0 3.632561  0.04456383 225.2671 2.484327
                                                                                       3.276675
                                                                                                     0.4497654
     dofABAB sameSurvey
## 1
         NA
                   NA
## 2 140.3769
                FALSE
## 3 125.1551
                FALSE
```

### Gap Analysis - Summary

#### Analyses:

- mean scores
- student group percentages
- achievement level percentages
- percentiles

#### Comparison Types:

- within year
  - between variable levels (uses edsurvey.data.frame)
  - between education systems (uses edsurvey.data.frame.list)
- between years (uses edsurvey.data.frame.list)

## Think Pair Share - Gap Analysis

A. Select Your Own Variables: Use EdSurvey functions to select variables of interest to calculate between education systems results using gap

```
# for reference
help(package = "EdSurvey")
searchSDF("text", sdf)
levelsSDF("myvar", sdf)
```

- **B. Replicate This Scenario:** Use EdSurvey functions to calculate between year results using gap with these parameters:
  - overall TIMSS 2019 4th grade math performance
  - across three education systems (e.g., usa, fin, hkg)
  - between-country comparison by gender (itsex %in% "MALE and itsex %in% "FEMALE")

## Think Pair Share - Gap Analysis

#### Scenario Result:

• Reading multiple datasets and combine them into an edsurvey.data.frame.list.

```
TIMSS19USA<- readTIMSS(path = "C:/TIMSS/2019/", countries = c("usa"), grade TIMSS19FIN<- readTIMSS(path = "C:/TIMSS/2019/", countries = c("fin"), grade TIMSS19HKG<- readTIMSS(path = "C:/TIMSS/2019/", countries = c("hkg"), grade
```

• Form an "edsurvey.data.frame.list"

```
trend3 <- edsurvey.data.frame.list(list(TIMSS19USA, TIMSS19FIN, TIMSS19HKG)</pre>
```

## Think Pair Share - Gap Analysis (cont.)

Gap results

## Wrap Up



#### Learning EdSurvey

• Reading vignettes provided in training materials

```
vignette("introduction", package="EdSurvey")

# There are additional functions that we couldn't cover!
gap() #gap analysis
cor.sdf() # Bivariate correlations using "Pearson", "Spearman", "polychoric
edsurveyTable2pdf() # creating production ready summary tables
cbind(), rbind(), append(), merge() # useful functions in processing data
```

• R help

```
help(package = "EdSurvey")
```

- EdSurvey Website
- EdSurvey Github
- NAEP Data Training workshop

## Under development

- Package is still under development
  - Subsequent releases of the EdSurvey package will provide additional functionality
- Your feedback is important to us!

#### **Contact Information**

EdSurvey Package Help

• EdSurvey.help@air.org

EdSurvey Package Help on NCES.ed.gov

• http://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/contactus.aspx

Ting Zhang

• tzhang@air.org

Paul Bailey

• pbailey@air.org

Emmanuel Sikali

• Emmanuel.Sikali@ed.gov