

The Decline of Survey Response Rates*

Diana Liu

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Introduction

One aspect of the editorial Special Virtual Issue on Nonresponse Rates and Nonresponse Adjustments in the Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology focuses on the rise of nonresponse rates across 3 different methods of surveys (Olson and Thompson (n.d.)). These three papers each examine the response rate over time of a different survey method: telephone, online, and face-to-face. All three conclude that the response rates for their perspective survey methods have been declining. Understanding the trend of response rates can help statisticians be aware of nonresponse bias in their data and devise ways of increasing their response rates for future surveys.

Discussion

Nonresponse rates in most face-to-face household surveys have been increasing in the US since 2000 (Douglas Williams (2018))

*Code and data are available at: <https://github.com/Diana-Guanzhi-Liu/Tutorial-5>

#References

- Douglas Williams, J Michael Brick. 2018. “Trends in u.s. Face-to-Face Household Survey Nonresponse and Level of Effort.” *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology* 6 (2): 186–211. <https://doi.org/10.1093/jssam/smx019>.
- Olson, Kristen, and Katherine Jenny Thompson. n.d. “Special Virtual Issue on Nonresponse Rates and Nonresponse Adjustments.” *Journal of Survey Statistics and Methodology*. <https://academic.oup.com/jssam/pages/special-virtual-issue-on-nonresponse-rates-and-nonresponse-adjustments>.