

Announcement / Call for papers

**Workshop on**

**Item Non-response and Data Quality in Large Social Surveys**

October 9 - 12, 2003

Basel / Switzerland

Organized by

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&

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Recent decades have witnessed increasing attention given to survey-based empirical research from public bodies, businesses, and the scientific community. While survey data are the foundation of much of our empirical expertise, little is known about data quality and about the processes determining data quality. The purpose of the proposed workshop is to bring together scientists interested in survey data quality, practitioners with experience in survey administration, and representatives of statistical offices and research institutes with an interest in social survey data quality.

The main focus of the workshop will be research on item non-response, its theoretical explanation, actual patterns, determinants, and its correlation with question formats. Research on other issues of data quality such as unit non-response and misreporting, recall bias, the incidence and determinants of "don't know" answers, and other topics is welcome as well.

The workshop will last for two full days, starting on the morning of Friday Oct. 10 and is planned to end with a conference dinner on Saturday Oct. 11. The sessions cover ongoing research on item non-response and data quality as well as a select group of shorter "case-study" reports on experiences with item non-response and related issues for single datasets and surveys. After the meeting authors are invited to submit their papers to a special issue of the *Allgemeines Statistisches Archiv*, the refereed journal of the German Statistical Association.

Accommodation and meals will be provided. Some funding will be available for international travel, but if participants could contribute to cover their expenses from other sources that would be appreciated.

Please submit a paper or a 1-2 page summary with your complete postal and email address until March 30, 2003 to Regina Riphahn. Acceptance decisions will be communicated by June 30, 2003. For further information please visit <http://www.wwz.unibas.ch/stat/workshop>.

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