**Science and Engineering Indicators (SEI)**

**Community Survey Instrument**

Thank you for agreeing to participate in this survey on the *Science and Engineering Indicators* (SEI) report. The purpose of this survey is to understand your experience with and perception of the biennial Science and Engineering Indicators report issued by the National Science Board (NSB). The report is produced by the National Center for Science and Engineering Statistics (NCSES) of the National Science Foundation under the guidance of the NSB.

NCSES is exploring options for transitioning the *Indicators* report from a print publication with a secondary digital version to a primarily digital publication. Your input will help NCSES and the NSB make design decisions about the report. We are trying to learn more about how you use (or may use in the future) the *Indicators* report, your experience as an user (or potential user) of the report, and how it could be made better. Please keep in mind that this study is focused on the SEI report, and not on other NCSES datasets or publications (except as they are integrated into the Indicators report). No personal information will be associated with your responses to this survey, and all responses will be held confidential by NCSES and its contractor on this project, SRI International.

This survey is anticipated to take approximately 10 minutes to complete.

**Science and Engineering Indicators Users Survey**

**Background – User Profile**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Which of these user communities do you belong to? Please select all that apply** | |
|  | Federal government agency |
|  | Congressional staffers |
|  | State government agency |
|  | Academic or research professional staff |
|  | Graduate student |
|  | Nonprofit organization |
|  | Professional association |
|  | Science policy community |
|  | Industry / business |
|  | Science journalist |
|  | NSF staff |
|  | Other: (Specify) |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Have you ever used the *Science and Engineering Indicators* Report?** | |
|  | Yes |
|  | No |

(if #2 no, advance to item 6)

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **The last time I used the SEI report:** | **Strongly disagree** | **Disagree** | **Agree** | **Strongly agree** | **Don’t know / Not applicable** |
| 1. It was easy to find the answer to my question |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. The answer to my question was presented clearly |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Supporting data were provided in an appropriate format |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. The textual narrative was informative |  |  |  |  |  |
| 1. The charts or data visualizations were useful in interpreting the information. |  |  |  |  |  |

(if “Strongly disagree” or “Disagree” in #3 is checked)

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| --- | --- |
| 1. **If you disagreed with any of the statements in question #3, please explain why.** | |
|  |  |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **How do you usually use the *Science and Engineering Indicators* report? Please select all that apply** (if #2 yes) | |
|  | As a reference |
|  | As background for reports or articles |
|  | As background for program planning |
|  | As background for policy formulation or analysis |
|  | As background for proposal development |
|  | As verification or validation of specific issues |
|  | For information to be used in speeches and hearings |
|  | General research |
|  | Other: (Specify) |

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| --- | --- |
| 1. **What other policy indicator reports do you use? (For example: the Department of Education’s *The Condition of Education* or the World Bank’s *World Development Indicators*.** | |
|  |  |

(if #2 no, advance to item 14)

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Have you ever had difficulty finding what you were looking for in the *Science and Engineering Indicators* report? If yes, what were you looking for and how did you ultimately find the answer you were looking for?** | |
|  | No |
|  | Yes: (Specify) |

**Accessing the *Science and Engineering Indicators***

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **How often do you use the *Science and Engineering Indicators*****report?** | |
|  | Approximately once per month |  |
|  | Approximately once every 3 months |  |
|  | Approximately once every 6 months |  |
|  | Approximately once per year |  |
|  | Other: (Specify) |  |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Which format of the report do you usually use?** | |
|  | The published hard-copy edition |
|  | The online edition (Web page or PDF versions) |
|  | Both |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **How do you usually navigate through the report? Please select all that apply.** | |
|  | Browse or skim sections |
|  | Look for answers for your questions |
|  | Find or look for specific data or analysis |
|  | Look for supporting data or analysis to support a position |
|  | Read most or all sections |
|  | Other: (specify) |

(if #2 yes and “Look for answers for your questions” in #9 is checked)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **If you usually use the report to look for answers for your questions, how difficult or easy is it to find the answers?** | |
|  | Very difficult |
|  | Somewhat difficult |
|  | Somewhat easy |
|  | Very easy |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 1. **How often do you use the following components of the *Science and Engineering Indicators* report?** | **Always** | **Often** | **Sometimes** | **Never** |
| 1. Chapter overviews |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Most or all of a chapter |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Text from selected chapters |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Chapter highlights |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Graphics from chapters |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Tables from chapters |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Appendix tables |  |  |  |  |
| 1. Presentation slides |  |  |  |  |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Which parts of the *Science and Engineering Indicators* report are most useful to you? Please select all that apply.** | |
|  | Chapter overviews |
|  | Most or all of the chapter |
|  | Text from selected chapters |
|  | Chapter highlights |
|  | Graphics from chapters |
|  | Tables from chapters |
|  | Appendix tables |
|  | Presentation slides |
|  | Other (specify) |

(if #2 yes)

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **If you access the report online, how often do you extract data or download data tables?** | |
|  | Always |
|  | Often |
|  | Sometimes |
|  | Never |

**SEI Digital Future**

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Based on your experience with other digital documents or your own impressions, in what ways would making *Science and Engineering Indicators* a primarily-digital document improve its usefulness and value to you?** | |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **Are you aware of any other reports or other online resources that could serve as a good model for the *Science and Engineering Indicators*? What makes these reports good examples to follow?** | |
|  |  |

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| 1. **What features would you like to see in a new digital version of the *Science and Engineering Indicators* report? How could these new features enhance your use of the SEI report?** | |
|  |  |