

Appendix J

The 2008 SPPA User's Guide was written for users of the public-use data file. The guide may be accessed at: <http://www.nea.gov/research/SPPA/users-guide.pdf>

The document covers a variety of topics, including:

- An overview of the survey;
- Descriptions of the sample design and data collection procedures;
- Explanation of how item missing data have been coded, and recommendations for how to handle the missing data in analysis;
- Information on how to use the survey weights;
- Description of procedures for calculating variances and standard errors of survey estimates;
- Description some of the issues that need to be understood when doing multivariate analysis, or when making comparisons with estimates from prior SPPA studies;
- Information on how to incorporate census variables into your analysis.

Finally, the appendices to the guide include a data dictionary that displays both weighted and unweighted frequencies and a copy of the questionnaire.