

Supporting Statement B: Annual Arts Benchmarking Survey

B. COLLECTION OF INFORMATION EMPLOYING STATISTICAL METHODS

B.1. Universe and Respondent Selection

The Census Bureau will conduct the AABS as a February supplement in conjunction with the CPS. The universe is the more than 100 million housing units in the 3,141 counties and independent cities that make up the United States. From this universe, the Bureau will select a sample of approximately 72,000 households each month, of which approximately 60,000 households are eligible to be interviewed (most ineligible housing units are non-residential or unoccupied). About 55,500 households will be interviewed each month. The Bureau will administer the AABS supplement to a random one-quarter of the 60,000 eligible households, or the approximately 15,000 households who are in two of the CPS months in sample rotations. In larger households, a second supplemental AABS interview will be administered. The Census Bureau estimated that based on the 2013 and 2014 AABS we should expect that there will be approximately 36,000 adults eligible for the 2015 and 2016 AABS supplements. Since the AABS allows proxy responses for spouses or partners, we expect that data will be collected on approximately 18,000 adults each year. This is what occurred in the 2013 AABS and 2014 AABS using the same sampling procedures. The exact number of interviews will ultimately depend on the supplemental response rate. However, based on prior experience and the current design that permits some proxy responses, we expect the supplement response rate to be close to the 2013 AABS Supplement response rate, which was approximately 86.9%.

B.2. Procedures for Collecting Information

The main data for the Annual Arts Benchmarking Arts Attendance and Arts Learning survey will be collected as a supplemental survey associated with the February 2015 CPS. The main data for the Annual Arts Benchmarking Arts Creation and Performance survey will be collected as a supplemental survey associated with the February 2016 CPS. Attachment L gives an overview of the CPS sample design and weighting.

B.3. Methods for Maximizing Response Rate

One of the main reasons that the NEA has chosen to have the AABS as a supplement to the CPS is the fact that the CPS has historically achieved higher response rates than what would otherwise be possible. To avoid breakoffs we have kept the number of supplemental questions to a minimum. We also have plans (described in the next section) to test each question to ensure that the questions are easy to answer and will not lead to any significant item nonresponse. As with the SPPA, to avoid lower response rates we have given the Census Bureau permission to collect the information via proxy from a knowledgeable adult in the event that the target respondent is unavailable during

the CPS field period. Finally, the Census Bureau's final AABS supplement survey weights include a nonresponse adjustment, which reduces potential nonresponse bias.

Attachments

- A. Title 13, Section 182, United States Code
- B. First Federal Register Notice, Vol. 79, No. 66, p. 19127
- C. Second Federal Register Notice, Vol. 79, No. 113, p. 33787
- D. AABS Questionnaire: Arts Attendance and Arts Learning
- E. AABS Questionnaire: Arts Creation and Performance
- F. CPS Advance Letter
- G. Confidentiality Brochure
- H. Fact Sheet for the Current Population Survey
- I. 2012 SPPA Results: <http://arts.gov/sites/default/files/highlights-from-2012-SPPA.pdf>
- J. Source and Accuracy Statement (2012 CPS/SPPA): <http://www.census.gov/prod/techdoc/cps/cpsjul12.pdf>
- K. 2012 SPPA User's Guide: http://arts.gov/sites/default/files/Users-Guide%20revised_sept.pdf
- L. Overview of CPS Sample Design and Methodology