

Smart Surveys: Methodological Issues and Challenges for Official Statistics

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Abstract

In smart surveys respondents employ mobile devices to acquire information through active and passive data collection and can share existing data collected by trusted third parties. Smart data can supplement or replace self-reports, improve the quality of social surveys and reduce respondent burden and non-response. Smart surveys lead, inevitably, to new sources of representation errors and measurement errors. The European Statistical System (ESS) have been financed two projects on this topic: ESSNet Smart Surveys, 2020-2022, delivered preparatory work to create a European wide methodological and architectural framework; ESSNet Smart Surveys Implementation, 2023, to test micro services, solution/component for Time Use and Household Budget surveys. The focus of the paper is describing the main methodological and data collection issues addressed by the projects.

Keywords: smart survey, smart device, sensor data

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