METHODOLOGY REPORT

NATIONAL THREAT & TERRORISM SURVEY (NTTS)

Stony Brook University Center for Survey Research

WAVE 1:
The survey was conducted via telephone with a national sample of 1,549 adults aged 18 or older. The survey occurred between early October, 2001 and early March, 2002. The sample was drawn as a random-digit-dial (RDD) weekly rolling cross-section with roughly 100 individuals interviewed each week throughout the time period. The first month of data was collected by Shulman, Ronca, and Bukuvalis and the remainder by the Stony Brook University Center for Survey Research. The cooperation rate for the survey was 52% (among all of those reached in person by an interviewer). Respondents were of similar income level to the national population but were slightly more middle-aged, somewhat better educated, slightly less black, and somewhat more female, in line with other national telephone surveys (Brehm 1993).

WAVE 2

Sample Design

Telephone interviews were conducted between October 10th and November 18th 2002 by the Stony Brook University Center for Survey Research. The study has a panel and an RDD sample. In the panel sample 858 adults were re-interviewed from across the nation. In the RDD sample, 221 adults were interviewed from across the nation. All interviews were conducted by the Center for Survey Research at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Up to 15 contact attempts were made at each selected household and individuals were selected at random within households. As a quality control measure, an effort was made to convert all initial refusals.

For the panel study, re-interviews were attempted for the Wave_1 sample. For the RDD sample, a list-assisted method of random-digit-dialing (RDD) was used to obtain phone numbers. Numbers were purchased from Genesys. Under the list-assisted sampling method, random samples of telephone numbers are selected from blocks of 100 telephone numbers that are known to contain at least one *listed* residential telephone number. These blocks with at least one residential telephone number are referred to as "1-plus" working blocks. According to Survey Sampling Inc. roughly 40% of telephone numbers in 1-plus working blocks are residences, although percentages are as high as 54% when the blocks are screened for non-working and business numbers (Brick, Waksberg, Kulp and Starer 1995).[1]

Response Rates
Wave_2 Panel Sample**:** A total of 1548 were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 14% of all dialed numbers (N=213) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. It also includes 6 numbers estimated as non-households. These 6 numbers were drawn

[1] Brick, J.M., Waksberg, J., Kulp, D, and Starer A. (1995) "Bias in List-Assisted Telephone Samples" *Public Opinion Quarterly*, 59: 218-235.

from 8 numbers that were called 15 times and at which there was ever only a busy signal or no answer (but no answering machine). Based on research by Westat, we estimate that 75% of these 8 numbers are non-households (Pearce et al. 1998).[2] For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 1335 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 858 respondents[3]. The re-interview rate (number of completes / numbers dialed) was 55.42% The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 78.43%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

Wave_2 RDD sample : A total of 768 were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 26% of all dialed numbers (N=199) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. It also includes 57 numbers estimated as non-households. These 57 numbers were drawn from 75 numbers that were called 15 times and at which there was ever only a busy signal or no answer (but no answering machine). Based on research by Westat, we estimate that 75% of these 75 numbers are non-households (Pearce et al. 1998). For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 569 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 221 respondents, resulting in a response rate of 38.84%. The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 56.52%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

WAVE 3A- DURING THE IRAQ WAR

Sample Design

Telephone interviews were conducted between March 20th and April 9th, 2003 by the Stony Brook University Center for Survey Research. Re-interviews were attempted for the panel and RDD samples of the Wave_2 study. In the panel sample 298 adults were re-interviewed. In the RDD sample, 56 adults were re-interviewed. All interviews were conducted by the Center for Survey Research at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Up to 15 contact attempts were made at each selected household and individuals were selected at random within households. As a quality control measure, an effort was made to convert all initial refusals.

Re-interview Rates

Wave_3a Panel sample**:** Half of the records of the Wave_2 panel sample were randomly selected and entered in the sample data base producing a total of 429 numbers that were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 7% of all dialed numbers (N=30) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. There were no numbers that were only a busy signal

[2] Pierce, J. T., Berry C.C, Gilpin, E. A., Rosbrook, B, White, M.M., Maklan, D.M., Croos, J., and Machado, J. (1998). *Technical Report on Analytic Methods and Approaches Used in the 1996 California Tobacco Survey Analysis.* University of California, San Diego and Westat, Inc.

[3] Four additional interviews were completed with respondents in the panel sample, but data from these interviews were omitted, due to inconsistencies in the recording of the gender of the respondents between the Wave_1 and Wave_2 re-interview. Those records are included in the response rate calculations as contacts.

or no answer (but no answering machine) at every attempt. For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 399 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 298 respondents. The re-interview rate (number of completes / numbers dialed) is 69.46%. The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 91.41%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

Wave_3a RDD sample: Half of the records of the Wave_2 RDD sample, a total of 111 were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 10% of all dialed numbers (N=11) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. There were no numbers that were only a busy signal or no answer (but no answering machine) at every attempt. For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 100 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 69 respondents. The re-interview rate (number of completes / numbers dialed) is 50.45%. The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 80%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

WAVE 3 B – "AFTER" THE IRAQ WAR

Sample Design

Telephone interviews were conducted between May 21st and June 13th, 2003 by the Stony Brook University Center for Survey Research. The study has a panel and an RDD sample. In the panel sample 314 adults were re-interviewed. In the RDD sample, 60 adults were re-interviewed. All interviews were conducted by the Center for Survey Research at the State University of New York at Stony Brook. Up to 15 contact attempts were made at each selected household and individuals were selected at random within households. As a quality control measure, an effort was made to convert all initial refusals.

Re-interview Rates

Wave_3b Panel sample: The remaining 429 numbers from the Wave_2 panel sample were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 7% of all dialed numbers (N=31) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. There were no numbers that were only a busy signal or no answer (but no answering machine) at every attempt. For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 398 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 314 respondents. The re-interview rate (number of completes / numbers dialed) is 73.19%. The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 91.55%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

Wave 3b RDD sample: The remaining half of the Wave_2 RDD sample, a total of 110 numbers were dialed by the Center for Survey Research. Approximately 16% of all dialed numbers (N=18) were coded as non-households. This includes all numbers coded as disconnected, a business, government office, fax, changed number or cell phone. There were no numbers that were only a busy signal or no answer (but no answering machine) at every attempt. For a break down of final disposition codes, see Table 1.

This left 92 possible households in the sample of phone numbers and interviews were completed with 60 respondents. The re-interview rate (number of completes / numbers dialed) is 54.55%. The cooperation rate (number of completes/ completes and refusals) was 81.08%. See Table 2 for a breakdown of the response rate calculation.

Table 1: Final Disposition Codes

	Wave 2 Panel	**Wave 2 RDD**	**Wave 3a Panel (in wave 2)**	**Wave 3a RDD (in wave 2)**	**Wave_3b Panel (in wave 2)**	**Wave_3b RDD (in wave 2)**
Contacts						
Completes	858	221	298	56	314	60
Partial-not completed	--	--	--	--	--	--
Refusals	254	174	43	22	39	21
Gender inconsistency	4	--	--	--	--	--
Non-contacts						
Answering machine	123	78	35	10	23	7
No Answer	61	48	14	9	11	1
Busy	26	29	4	1	--	--
Language problems	--	7	--	0	--	1
Physically unable	9	12	5	2	11	3
Non-households						
Technical problems	--	--	--	--	--	--
Fax number	3	33	--	--	--	--
Disconnected	120	70	17	4	20	12
Number changed	75	5	12	5	8	6
Cell phone	1	--	--	--	1	--
Business, government	8	34	1	2	2	--
No contact – non-household	6	57	--	--	--	--
Total	1548	768	429	111	429	110

Table 2: Response Rates for Wave_2, Wave_3a and Wave_3b surveys

	Wave_2 Panel	Wave_2 RDD	Wave_3a Panel (in wave 2)	Wave_3a RDD (in wave2)	Wave_3b Panel (in wave 2)	Wave_3b RDD (in wave 2)
All Numbers	1548	768	429	111	429	110
All Households	1335	569	399	100	398	92
Completed interviews	858	221	298	56	314	60
Response Rate %		38.84				
Re-interview Rate %	55.42		69.46	50.45	73.19	54.55
Cooperation Rate %	78.43	56.52	91.41	80	91.55	81.08