Codebook for
"Hard-to-Survey Populations and Respondent-Driven Sampling,\"
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Introduction

The variables in this codebook map onto the variables in "RDS_replication_data.xlsx." The variable groupings are RDS, Demographic, Activism, and Other, and follow the same sequence as they do in the dataset. With the exception of ID and coupon variables, the code matches the text of the survey questionnaire, although the survey was conducted in Arabic and these questions were duly translated for that purpose. The variables included are those reported in the article. Additional questions and data are being reserved for future work and publications.

RDS Variables

id: A sequential case number.

recruit.id: The non-identifying ID number that links participants to one another. These are often called "coupons" in the RDS literature because epidemiological studies of populations at high risk for HIV are often conducted at physical survey sites equipped for blood testing; in turn, recruitment messages are passed to peers in the form of physical coupons. Structured numbering is one mode for generating recruitment IDs and was the one used for the Syrian activist survey. Structured numbering is intuitive, manageable by hand,[1] and tracks the number of waves; the numbers can, however, become quite long. In this mode, seeds receive single digit numbers, e.g. 1 through 7. To refer new recruits to the survey, they are provided with recruitment messages

[1] A formula can be used in Excel to automatically generate each respondent's coupon numbers.

that include IDs generated by adding the number of coupons they receive, usually up to three. For instance, seed 2 will receive recruitment messages that include IDs 21, 22, and 23 to pass on to her peers. When the second of these, 22, participates, she will be provided with messages with recruitment IDs 221, 222, 223 to pass on, and so on. Another mode for generating recruitment IDs is to use sequential number beginning at 1000; for more on this, see the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's RDS manual (CDC 2012).

*coupon.*1, *coupon.2*, *coupon.3*: non-identifying ID numbers given to participants to pass on to their peers. See *recruit.id.*

degree: How many Syrian activists in Amman do you know, that is, you know their name and they know yours, and who you have been in contact with—in person, over the phone, or the internet—in the past one month? ____

> Also known as network size, the degree is the reported number of a participant's personal connections within the larger target population to be computed as a weight on the basis of inverse-inclusion probability. The degree should only count people eligible for inclusion in the target population, and relations between the respondent and her connections should be reciprocal. My survey asked one degree question in order to reduce suspicion about the survey objectives. The surveyor was instructed to ask it carefully and to read it twice.

Demographic Variables

sex: What is your sex?

(1) male;
(2) female;
(3) don't know;
(4) NA

age: How old are you? ____

education: What is the highest level of school you have completed or the highest degree you have received?

(1) no formal education/illiterate
(2) elementary
(3) preparatory/basic
(4) secondary
(5) mid-level institute (professional or technical)
(6) bachelor's degree
(7) graduate degree (MA or above)
(8) don't know
(9) NA

Activism Variables

Columns 11 through *19*
Now I'm going to read out some forms of activism, and I'd like you to tell me, for each one, whether, while living here in Jordan, you have done it, you might do it, or you would never do it. If you have cooperated with a team or organization that engages in a form of activism, this counts as having done it.

Humanitarian relief
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Advocacy, for example, around human rights
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Development, that is, the promotion of long-term social and economic development such as the provision of public services
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Media or documentation
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Protest or demonstrations
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Armed defense[2]
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Fundraising
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Political *institutions,* like an organizing committee or governance council
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

Political *parties*
(1) have done
(2) might do
(3) would never do

[2] Sensitive question embedded in the list of activisms and dropped from the analysis.

most_recent: Which of those forms of activism is the most recent form that you have been engaged in? If more than one, answer on the primary one. If you work with a team or organization, choose that which is its primary mission

(1) Humanitarian relief
(2) Advocacy
(3) Development
(4) Media or documentation
(5) Protest or demonstrations
(6) Armed defense[3]
(7) Fundraising
(8) Political institution building
(9) Political party activities
(10) Other
(11) Don't know
(12) NA

employ_status: In carrying out this work, are you an employee, volunteer, or self-employed?

(1) Employed
(2) Volunteer
(3) Self-employed
(4) Don't know
(5) NA

time_status: Is this commitment full time (30 hours per week or more) or part time (less than 30 hours per week)?

(1) Full time
(2) Part time
(3) Don't know
(4) NA

formality: Do you work informally—that is, by yourself or with a small group of friends—or formally, as in for an organization?

(1) Informally
(2) Formal/organization
(3) Don't know
(4) NA

cooperation: Do you cooperate with other Syrian activists to carry out this work?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(3) Don't know
(4) NA

cooperation_location: If *cooperation* Yes is selected: Are they in Syria, Jordan, or both?

[3] Dropped from analysis.

(1) Syria
(2) Jordan
(3) Both
(4) Neither
(5) Don't know
(6) NA

syria_pre2011: Did you participate in any activism when you were in Syria, before the uprising that began in March 2011?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(3) Don’t know
(4) NA

syria_post2011: Did you participate in any activism in Syria, after the uprising began but before coming to Jordan?

(1) Yes
(2) No
(3) Don’t know
(4) NA

Other

trust: Generally speaking, would you say that most people can be trusted, or that you need to be very careful in dealing with people?

(1) Most people can be trusted
(2) Need to be careful
(3) Don’t know
(4) NA