Benchmark Items

These benchmark items come from the following surveys.

A. National Health and Nutrition Examination Survey (NHANES):

1. Have you smoked at least 100 cigarettes in your entire life? [% Yes]

2. Would you say that in general your health is…? [% Excellent, Very good, Good, Fair, Poor]

3. In the past 12 months, have you donated blood? [% Yes]

4. Do you have any kind of health care coverage, including health insurance, prepaid plans such as HMOs, government plans such as Medicare, or Indian Health Service? [% Yes]

B. Gallup World Poll - Copyright © 2008-2018 Gallup, Inc. All rights reserved.:

5. Please imagine a ladder with steps numbered from zero at the bottom to ten at the top. The top of the ladder represents the best possible life for you and the bottom of the ladder represents the worst possible life for you. On which step of the ladder would you say you personally feel you stand at this time? / On which step do you think you will stand about five years from now? [% Thriving, Struggling, Suffering]

6. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The public transportation systems [% Satisfied]

7. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The roads and highways [% Satisfied]

8. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The quality of air [% Satisfied]

9. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The quality of water [% Satisfied]

10. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The availability of good affordable housing [% Satisfied]

11. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The educational system or the schools [% Satisfied]

12. In the city or area where you live, are you satisfied or dissatisfied with…? The availability of quality healthcare [% Satisfied]

C. American Community Survey (ACS):

13. Do you or any members of this household have access to the Internet using a…? Cellular data plan for a smartphone or other mobile device [% Yes]

14. Do you or any members of this household have access to the Internet using a…? Broadband (high speed) Internet service such as cable, fiber optic, or DSL service installed in this household? [% Yes]

15. Do you or any members of this household have access to the Internet using a…? Satellite Internet service installed in this household [% Yes]

16. Do you or any members of this household have access to the Internet using a…? Dial-up Internet service installed in this household [% Yes]

17. What is the monthly rent for this house, apartment or mobile home? [% Less than $500, $500 to $999, $1,000 to $1,499, $1,500 to $1,999, $2,000 to $2,499, $2,500 to $2,999, $3,000 or more]

18. Is this house, apartment, or mobile home…? [% Owned]

19. In the past 12 months, did you or any member of this household receive benefits from the Food Stamp Program or SNAP (the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program)? Do not include WIC, the School Lunch Program, or assistance from food banks. [% Yes]

20. Are you currently registered to vote? [% Yes]

21. What is your current marital status? [% Married]

22. Was there a time in the past 12 months when you needed to see a doctor but could not because you could not afford it? [% Yes]

D. Current Population Survey (CPS):

23. In the past 12 months, did you spend any time volunteering for any organization or association? [% Yes]

24. In the past 12 months, did you give money or possessions with a combined value of more than $25 to a non-political group or organization, such as a charity, school, or religious organization? [% Yes]

Detection Methods

The following careless responding flags were used.

Survey-Embedded Items:

1. Underline Easy Instructed Item:
To show that you are paying attention to these instructions, please only select Brad Pitt.
Brad Pitt
Emma Stone
Halle Berry
Javier Bardem
Johnny Depp
Leonardo DiCaprio
Matt Damon
Penelope Cruz
Reese Witherspoon
Sandra Bullock
Tom Cruise
None of the above

[FLAG IF CHOOSE ANY OPTION OTHER THAN BRAD PITT]

2. Hard Instructed Item:
In order to demonstrate that you have read these instructions, please do not answer the question below. Instead, click on the button below to continue to the next screen without answering the question on this page. You will continue to answer questions on the next screen. Which of the following would you prefer to do if you were going out to dinner for a special occasion?
Try a new restaurant
Go to one of your favorite restaurants

[FLAG IF SELECT EITHER OPTION]

3. Open-Ended Instructed Items:
Item A: What is your age? _____
Item B: How old are you? _____

[FLAG IF EITHER RESPONSE IS <18, >100, OR IF NON-NUMERIC CHARACTER STRING IS NOT A SPELLED-OUT NUMBER]

4. Low-Incidence Items:
Infrequency Subscale of the Attentive Responding Scale (11-item long-form; Maniaci & Rogge, 2014).

[FLAG IF TOTAL SCORE > 11.5]

<u>Self-Report Items:</u>

    5. Pre-Honesty Item

This survey is for research purposes only. It is important that you answer each question honestly. There are no right or wrong answers.

Do you commit to being honest when answering the questions in this survey?

        Yes

        No

[FLAG IF SELECT NO]

    6. Pre-Attentive Item

The quality of the answers that you provide will be checked for accuracy using sophisticated statistical control methods.

Do you commit to paying attention when answering the questions in this survey?

        Yes

        No

[FLAG IF SELECT NO]

    7. Post-Honesty Item

How honest were you when answering the questions in this survey?

Completely honest

Somewhat honest

Not honest at all

[FLAG IF NOT SELECT COMPLETELY HONEST]

    8. Post-Attentive Item

To what extent were you paying attention while responding to the questions in this survey?

Fully paying attention

Somewhat paying attention

Not paying attention at all

[FLAG IF NOT SELECT FULLY PAYING ATTENTION]

    9. Post-UseMe Item

In your opinion, should we use your data in our analyses in this study?

Yes

No

[FLAG IF SELECT NO]

Post-hoc Indices:

Duration
    10. Speeding
Total survey completion time

[FLAG IF INDIVIDUAL TIME < 60% OF SAMPLE MEDIAN TIME]

    11. Slowing
Total survey completion time

[FLAG IF INDIVIDUAL TIME > 200% OF SAMPLE MEDIAN TIME]

Response Consistency
    12. Logical Consistency
Item A: How many times have you seen a movie in the movie theater over the past 12 months?
       0
       1 to 2
       3 to 5
       6 to 10
       11 to 15
       16 to 24
       25 or more
Item B: Did you see a film in the theater over this past weekend?
       Yes
       No
       Not sure
[FLAG IF SELECT "0" FOR ITEM A AND "YES" FOR ITEM B]

    13. Repeat Item Consistency
Item A: What is your age? _____
Item B: How old are you? _____

[FLAG IF ITEM A DOES NOT EQUAL ITEM B (AFTER CONVERTING CHARACTER STRINGS OF SPELLED-OUT NUMBERS TO NUMERIC CODINGS)]

    14. Psychometric Synonyms
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment and a 19-item health/happiness assessment. The data displayed critical values of 0.5 for personality and 0.6 for health/happiness items.

[FLAG IF INDIVIDUAL WITHIN-PERSON CORRELATION OF SAMPLE'S LARGEST POSITIVE INTER-ITEM CORRELATION ITEM-PAIR IS R <= 0.3 FOR EITHER SCALE]

15. Psychometric Antonyms
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment and a 19-item health/happiness assessment. The data displayed critical values of -0.2 for personality and -0.3 for health/happiness items.

[FLAG IF INDIVIDUAL'S WITHIN-PERSON CORRELATION OF SAMPLE'S LARGEST NEGATIVE INTER-ITEM CORRELATION ITEM-PAIR IS R <= -0.2 FOR EITHER SCALE]

Individual Variability
16. Maximum Longstring Straightlining
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment and a 19-item health/happiness assessment. Cutoffs determined via visual inspection of outliers in boxplots.

[FLAG IF SAME CONSECUTIVE RESPONSE IS SELECTED FOR 9+ PERSONALITY OR 8+ HEALTH/HAPPINESS ITEMS]

17. Average Longstring Straightlining
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment and a 19-item health/happiness assessment. Cutoffs determined via visual inspection of outliers in boxplots.

[FLAG IF MEAN NUMBER OF ITEMS WITH SAME RESPONSE SELECTED IS > 2.0 FOR PERSONALITY, OR >2.5 FOR HEALTH/HAPPINESS ITEMS]

18. Individual Response Variability
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment and a 19-item health/happiness assessment.

[FLAG IF INDIVIDUAL'S STANDARD DEVIATION OF RESPONSES IS < -2 STANDARD DEVIATIONS FROM SAMPLE STANDARD DEVIATION OF RESPONSES FOR EITHER PERSONALITY OR HEALTH/HAPPINESS ITEMS]

19. Personal Reliability
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment.

[FLAG IF PROPORTION OF ITEMS WITHIN A SUBSCALE OF PERSONALITY ASSESSMENT THAT ALTERNATE BETWEEN EVEN AND ODD VALUES IS > 0.99]

Outlier Detection
20. Mahalanobis Distance
Tested with a 20-item personality assessment.

[FLAG IF D_m > 0.99 CONFIDENCE THRESHOLD]