



# HUMAN Surveys

HUMAN Surveys stands for *Human Understanding Measured Across National Surveys*. There are many public opinion surveys, but they can be difficult to analyse because each source uses different naming conventions and coding schemes. HUMAN Surveys has formatted and merged over 8 million respondents from 19 sources covering 160 countries between 1963 and 2016. It aims to coordinate data scientists globally and merge all nationally representative public surveys. The first dataset release is available through [Harvard Dataverse](#) and includes variables for generalized social trust, satisfaction with democracy, support for democracy, and perceived electoral integrity. Future releases will include trust in institutions and other variables that participants can suggest for inclusion.

## Objectives and Motivations

We want your help to design better institutions, build happier and healthier societies, generate evidence to guide public policy, and improve the quality of government. More specific examples might include the following.

- Improve democracy in developing countries to decrease migration separating families
- Inform healthcare policy to reduce infectious diseases and child mortality
- Reduce inequality to build safer communities and lower violent crime rates
- Broaden support for government and decrease deaths from conflict and civil war

## People and Skills Required

We are seeking individuals interested in undertaking systematic reviews and publishing meta-analyses using cross-national public opinion data. We need expertise in theoretical frameworks, quantitative methods, science communication, and coordinating research

groups. Figure 1 outlines the process, but we need to assemble teams with the following skills.

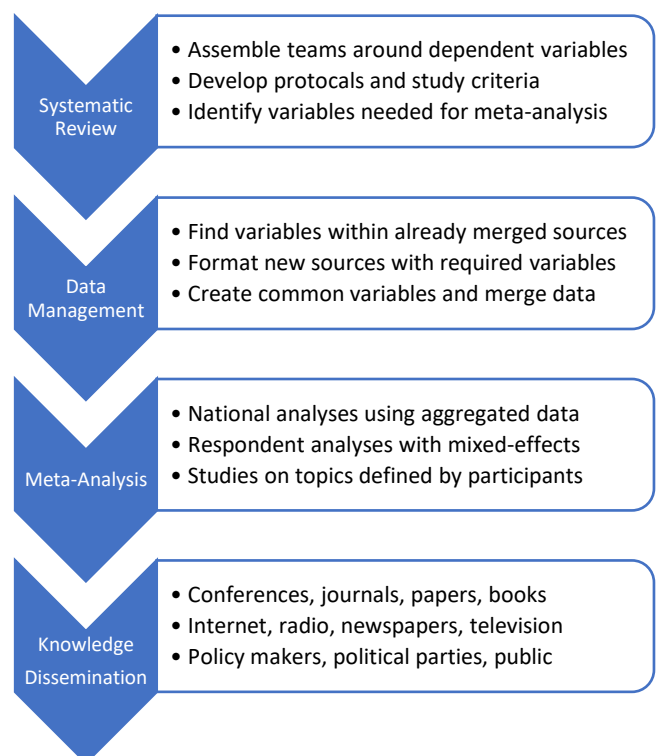
- Review literature to identify variables
- Explain theories and generate hypotheses
- Design and apply statistical methods
- Organise and lead research groups
- Publicize to media and government

## Benefits of Participation

Specialization and the division of labor allows us to focus on our strengths. Together, we can publish high quality research, generate new knowledge, answer important questions, and have a greater impact on society than we could alone. Individual benefits to you could include the following.

- International prestige and peer recognition
- Shared authorship, citations, and impact
- Performance appraisals and promotions
- Expand personal and professional networks

Figure 1: Sample outline of workflow stages



## Expansion via Collaboration

We want to continue expanding this resource and use it to publish co-authored research. One of the major benefits to collaborating with us is that you can help prioritize which variables and sources to include next. Once they are included, you can use them in your own independent research projects. Table 2 summarizes some of the potential survey sources to include through collaboration.

## Current Dataset

The current release merges data from the nineteen original survey sources displayed in Table 1. Using merged data requires also citing these sources and following their terms of use. The current merged dataset includes basic demographics and data identification variables as well as the following measures, where available.

- Generalized social trust
- Satisfaction with democracy
- Support for democracy
- Perceived electoral integrity

*Table 1: Current survey sources in first release*

• Afrobarometer
• AmericasBarometer (LAPOP)
• Arab Barometer
• Asia Barometer
• Asian Barometer Survey
• Australian Election Study
• Comparative Study of Electoral Systems
• Consolidation of Democracy in Central and Eastern Europe
• Eurobarometer – Applicant and Candidate Countries
• Eurobarometer – Standard and Special
• Eurobarometer – Central and Eastern
• European Social Survey
• European Values Study
• Latinobarómetro
• International Social Survey Programme
• New Europe Barometer
• New Russia Barometer
• Voice of the People Series
• World Values Survey

## Contact

If you would like to be involved, please contact Andrew James Klassen at +61 (0)433 566 665 or [andrew.klassen@cdu.edu.au](mailto:andrew.klassen@cdu.edu.au) for more information. Please also distribute this document and information to others who may be interested. Timelines are flexible, but we would like to assemble teams and start scoping research topics.

*Table 2: Potential survey sources for inclusion*

• American National Election Studies
• ANU Poll
• Arab Transformations Project
• Asia-Europe Survey
• Australian Survey of Social Attitudes
• British Election Study
• British Social Attitudes
• Canadian Election Study
• Caucasus Barometer
• Comparative National Elections Project
• East Asian Social Survey
• Eurobarometer - Flash
• European Election Study
• European Quality of Life Surveys
• European Working Conditions Surveys
• Gallup World Poll
• General social surveys (from multiple nations)
• Global Attitudes and Trends (Pew Research)
• IntUne - Integrated and United
• Irish National Election Study
• Israel National Election Studies
• Japanese General Social Survey
• Life in Transition Survey
• National Election Study (India)
• New Zealand Election Study
• Political Action
• Swedish National Election Studies Program
• Values and Political Change in Post-Communist Europe, 1993-1994
• World Health Survey