

WHERE WE ARE

- This is week 6.
- I am finishing reading Discussion Form 1A this morning in GeorgiaVIEW.
- I have or will post the prompt for Discussion Forum 2A very soon.
- We are still using this survey for teaching/learning purposes.

Survey on Attitudes Toward Economic Relocation

This survey is research being conducted by a graduate student at Albany State University. The purpose of the survey is to better understand under what circumstances people are willing to move from a community. Participation in this research is voluntary. If you choose to participate you can skip any question(s) you may not want to answer. Please mark your answers and do not put your name on the survey.

1. For how many years have you lived in Albany, Georgia? _____ years
2. Please indicate your gender.
 Female Male
3. Please indicate your age.
_____ years
4. Please indicate your marital status.
 Single Engaged Married Divorced Widowed
5. How many children are dependent upon you? _____
6. How many adults live in your household? _____
7. How many dependent children live in your household? _____
8. Please indicate your household's approximate annual income a year. \$_____
9. Please indicate highest level of education.
 High School Technical Degree Bachelor Degree Master's Degree Doctorate Degree

10. Are you presently employed? yes no

11. If yes to the question above, how secure do you feel your job is?

- my job is very secure
- my job is fairly secure
- I am concerned about possible job loss.

Please indicate your agreement or disagreement with each of the following statements:

12. I feel attachment to Albany, Georgia.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

13. If I had to leave Albany I would miss being in Albany very much.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

14. I could leave Albany without much missing being in Albany.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

15. I have many close personal friends in Albany.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

16. I feel strongly attached to Albany because I have family members here.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

17. If unemployed I would move elsewhere if necessary to find work.

- | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------------|
| <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Strongly
Disagree | Disagree | Undecided | Agree | Strongly
Agree |

18. If I were to become unemployed I would do everything possible to find local employment rather than moving from Albany to find employment.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

19. I have skills that employers value highly.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

20. I frequently communicate with others online to keep in touch.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

21. Talking to loved ones on the telephone is an adequate substitute for talking with them in person.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

Please answer the following question if you are buying the home that you now occupy in Albany.

22. It would be difficult for me to leave Albany because I am buying a house here.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

Please answer the following question if you own a business in Albany.

23. It would be difficult for me to leave Albany because I own a business here.

Strongly Disagree Disagree Undecided Agree Strongly Agree

Thank you for participating in this research project.

REVIEW

Last week I introduced LEVELS OF MEASUREMENT. These are important because HOW YOU ASK AN ITEM determines what you can do with it in terms of statistical methods to TEST A HYPOTHESIS.

For statistical purposes, INTERVAL data is best.

For statistical purposes, ORDINAL data allows some statistical methods (and is often “misused” as if it were interval-level).

Some variables must be operationalized at the nominal level, just because of the nature of the variable.

Consider the way academic grades are measured. Often an assignment is given a numerical grade (interval-level measurement). Then at the end of the term a letter grade is assigned (ordinal level measurement). Then grade-point averages (GPAs) are calculated based on letter grades which are treated as if they are interval rather than ordinal. There is substantial SUBJECTIVITY involved in most grading. But when the final result is presented as a number, it has the appearance of PRECISION and OBJECTIVITY that may not be warranted.

Note: We have “skipped” the whole discussion of sampling strategies. We will return to that later.

The whole idea here is to identify one or more DEPENDENT VARIABLES and also identify INDEPENDENT VARIABLES that you have reason to believe may “cause” them.

A DEPENDENT VARIABLE is a concept (usually an attitude or behavior) that you want to better understand or predict among a POPULATION of people. For example, among a population of people, what kinds of people (in terms of independent variables) are more likely to believe that climate change is a hoax?

An independent variable (in a given research project) could be, for example, faith in the mainstream media.

A hypothesis could be the following, for example.

H3: that people who do not trust the mainstream media are more likely than people who do trust the mainstream media to believe that climate change is a hoax.

or,

H5: that Republicans are more likely than Democrats to believe that climate change is a hoax.

or,

H14: that men are more likely than women to believe that climate change is a hoax.

or,

H15: that people who are heavy users of social media and more likely than others to believe that climate change is a hoax.

and so forth.

Belief that climate change is a hoax (for example) is a concept. It is a variable in research because not all people share it equally. If it was a constant (or not salient among people in the population) it would not be a useful DEPENDENT VARIABLE.

IN THIS COURSE, we are going to PRETEND that we will actually collect data from say, 200 people, and then learn how to go through the steps in PRIMARY RESEARCH to TEST our hypotheses.

The CAPSTONE COURSE is based on SECONDARY RESEARCH.

CONSIDER RELIGIOUSITY AS A VARIABLE

<https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Religiosity>

<https://pure.uvt.nl/ws/portalfiles/portal/1443326/2012-073.pdf>

REMIND ME NEXT WEEK THAT WE NEED TO CONSIDER CAUSATION, CORRELATION AND SPURIOUS RELATIONSHIPS AMONG VARIABLES.