SINET

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SOCIAL INDICATORS NETWORK NEWS

A Quarterly Review of Social Reports and Research on Social Indicators, Social Trends, and the Quality-of-Life.
News Included of Working Group 6 on Social Indicators and Social Reporting of the International Sociological Association.
Newsletter of the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies

REPORTS AND DATA ON THE QUALITY OF LIFE OF CHILDREN, UNITED STATES,

ITS COMPONENT STATES, AND WORLD-WIDE

The KIDS COUNT program, supported by the Annie E. Casey Foundation, recently released a series of social indicator volumes that chart remarkable progress, 1990 to 1998, of the well-being of children in the United States. All states have improved in most of the 10 standard indicators of child quality of life. For the U.S. as a whole, only two indicators have regressed: percent of low birth-weight babies (worse by nine percent) and percent of families with children headed by a single parent (worse by 13 percent).

The KIDS COUNT program reaches into all 50 states of the U.S. and, through the states, to the counties of the states in order to promote legislation and agency activity that will impact the lives of children. Not only the KIDS COUNT program, but also Healthy People program of the Surgeon General of the U.S. generates action for children. Together they have demonstrated the effectiveness of concerted action to improve conditions. Their progress is verified by social indicators.

(Continued on next page.)

Table 1: Changes in key indicators of Child Well-Being

Indicators*	National Change 1990-1998 Percent Change (Worse / zero / Better)	State Changes 1990-1998 Numbers of States that are:		
Percent low-birthweight babies	-9	49	0	1
Infant mortality rate (deaths per 1,000 live births)	+22	4	0	46
Child death rate (deaths per 1000,000 children ages 1-14)	+23	2	2	46
Rate of teen deaths by accident, homicide, and suicide (deaths per 100,000 teens age 15-19)	+24	4	0	46
Teen birth rate (births per 1,000 females ages 15-17)	+19	0	1	49
Percent of teens who are high school dropouts (ages 16-19)	+10	18	8	24
Percent of teens not attending school and not working (ages 16-19)	+20	8	5	37
Percent of children living with parents who do not have full-time, year-round employment	+13	11	5	34
Percent of children in poverty (data reflect poverty in 1989 and 1997)	0	20	4	26
Percent of families with children headed by a single parent	-13	46	1	3

www.kidscount.org The Annie E. Casey Foundation

Source: **KIDS COUNT 2001: A Pocket Guide**

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SINET

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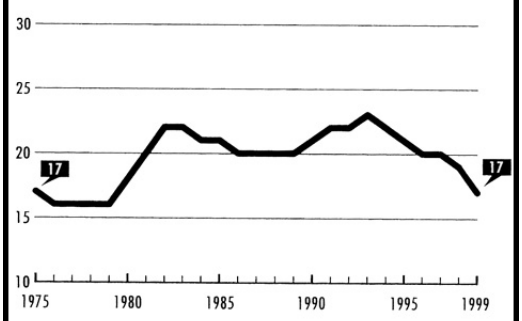
KIDS COUNT DATA BOOK, 2001: State Profiles of Child Well-Being. The Annie E. Casey Foundation, 701 St. Paul St., Baltimore, MD 21202; tel. 410 547 6600; Fax: 410 547 6624; e-mail: www.kidscount.org.

Child Poverty Rate Declined

The 1990s saw a drop in the child poverty rate even though the decade had the largest growth in the number of children since the 1950s. The 1999 rate was 16.9 percent in poverty, the lowest since 1979. The infant mortality rate improved by 22 percent. The death rate of children ages 1 – 14 years improved by 23 percent. The rate of deaths of teens, ages 15 to 19 years, improved by 24 percent. The birth rate to teen-age mothers ages 15 to 17, declined by 19 percent.

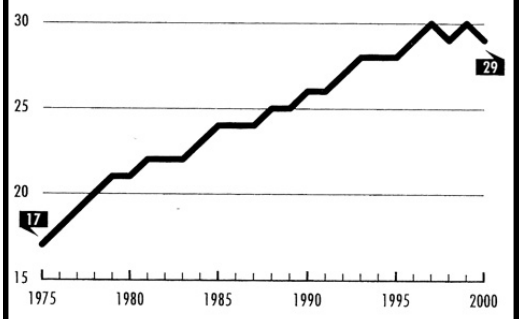
The percent of teens, ages 16 to 19, who dropped out of school improved by ten percent. The percent of 16 to 19 year old teens who were not attending school and not working, improved by a whopping 20 percent. The percent of children living with parents who do not have full-time year-round employment improved by 13 percent. These bright "markers" demonstrate the benefits of concerted intelligent action (telesis), but they do not warrant relaxation of effort, for much yet remains to be done.

Percent of Children in Poverty, 1975–1999



In 1999, 17 percent of American children were poor — the lowest level of child poverty in 20 years.

Percent of Families with Children Under 18 Headed by a Single Parent, 1975-2000



Minor fluctuations in recent years have not altered the fact that the percentage of single-parent families with related children was much higher in 2000 (29 percent) than in 1975 (17 percent).

Source: **KIDS COUNT 2001: A Pocket Guide**

The volume presents two pages for each state, graphing the data for the state and giving auxiliary data from the 2000 census, itemizing the ethnic composition of children, giving an overview of the educational and economic status of children, adding indicators of child health, juvenile justice, and children in working- poor families. An Appendix also presents the yearly values by state of each of the ten indicators so that state trends may be identified. Useful also, are the addresses of each of the state agencies participating in the program.

Trends in the Welfare of Babies and Mothers

In another volume, *The Right Start: State Trends: Conditions of Babies and Their Families Across the Nation, 1990-1998*, eight indicators relating to child welfare are presented. These are arrayed by year so that trends in the indicator by state may be charted. The indicators: percent of births to teens, percent of teen births to women who were already mothers, percent of total births to unmarried women, percent of total births to mothers with less than 12 years of education, percent of total births to mothers receiving late or no prenatal care, percent of total births to mothers who smoked during pregnancy, percent of low birth-weight births, and percent of preterm births.

The Right Start: State Trends: Conditions of Babies and Their Families Across the Nation, 1990-1998. Issued jointly by KIDS COUNT and Child TRENDS, 4301 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 100, Washington, DC 20008; tel. 202 362 5580; Fax: 202 362 5533; e-mail: www.childtrends.org.

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For the Nation's 50 largest cities, the same indicators as in "State Trends" are included in a "City Trends" volume. Data for 1990 to 1998 identify trends in nine indicators. The number of births by race and ethnicity for three ethnic groups and "other" are given. These numbers are not expressed as rates, because of the difficulty of estimating population denominators between census years.

Outcomes for child well-being for the 50 of the Nation's largest cities are not as good as for the Nation as a whole. Outcomes are worse for eight of the nine indicators. The one exception is the smoking during pregnancy indicator. On the other hand, cities vary widely in these indicators. For example, the percent of total births to teens finds San Francisco and Seattle with the smallest percentage while at the top are Baltimore, New Orleans and Memphis. Such rankings are presented for each indicator.

For six of the indicators the percentage of the indicator is shown for "inside" and "outside" the central city. For example, inside central cities 41 percent of children not living with both parents, while outside central cities the figure is 26 percent characterize. Such data are not presented for each city, however.

Trends in the eight indicators enable cities to trace the improvement or lack thereof of their programs to improve the well-being of children.

The Quality of Life of Children World Wide

KIDS COUNT program, Child Trends, Inc., and the United Nations Children's Fund have collaborated with the Population Reference Bureau to develop a *Kids Count International Data Sheet*. It presents indicators of child well-being for developing and industrialized countries, some 100 countries in all for which the data were available.

The 1990 World Summit for Children set goals for improving the well-being of children of the world. They included:

- Improving living conditions for children and their chances for survival by increasing access for health services for women and children.
- Reducing the spread of preventable diseases.
- Creating more opportunities for education.
- Providing better sanitation and greater food supply.
- Protecting children in danger.

A Wall Chart

The wall chart includes indicators of the size of the child population in each country, the under age 5 mortality rate, the percent teen-age births, the percent of primary school age males and of females in school, the percent of under age five children who are malnourished, the percent of all children with all three DPT immunizations, the percent of births delivered by a skilled attendant, the percent of the population with access to improved water source, and the number of AODS orphans at the end of 1999. When such data are available, each indicator is recorded at two dates, optimally 1990 and 2000.

The accompanying charts illustrate some of the findings. The

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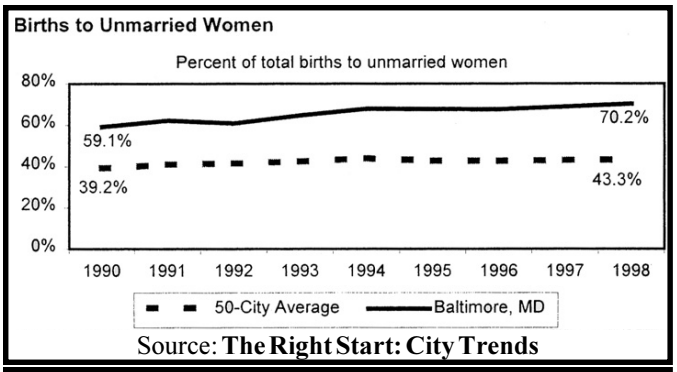
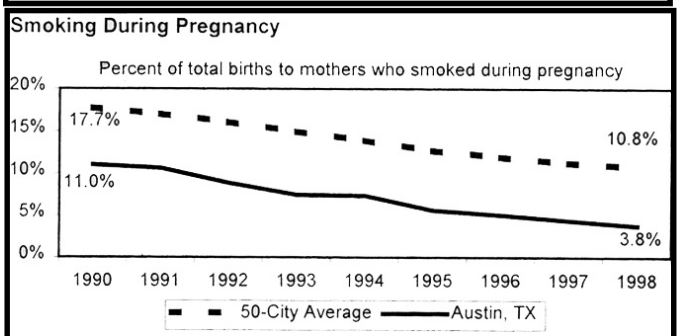


Source: **The Right Start: City Trends**

The Right Start: City Trends: Conditions of Babies and Their Families in America's Largest Cities, 1990-1998. The Annie E. Casey Foundation and Child Trends (addresses given above).

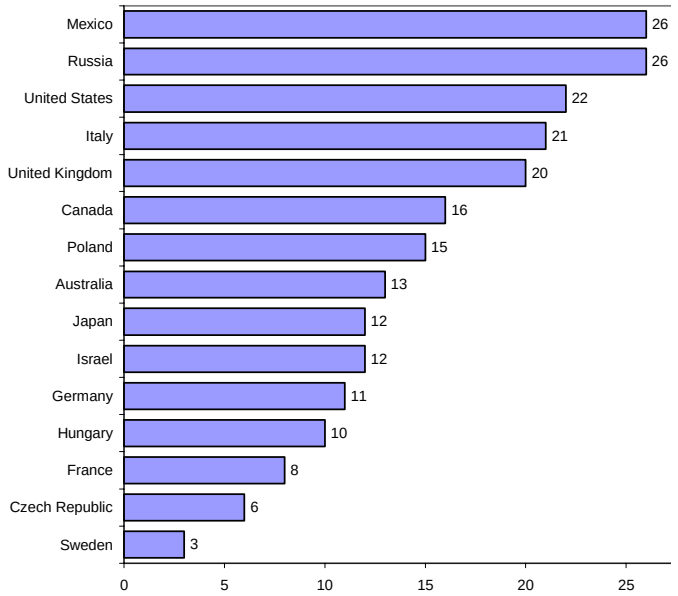


Source: **The Right Start: City Trends**

KIDS COUNT INTERNATIONAL DATA SHEET, For copies and information on data and sources, contact Population Reference Bureau, 1875 Connecticut Ave., NW, Suite 520, Washington, DC 20009-5728.USA. Tel: 202 483 1100. Fax: 202 328 3937. E-mail: popref@prb.org.

Percent of Children Living Below Poverty, Mid-1990s

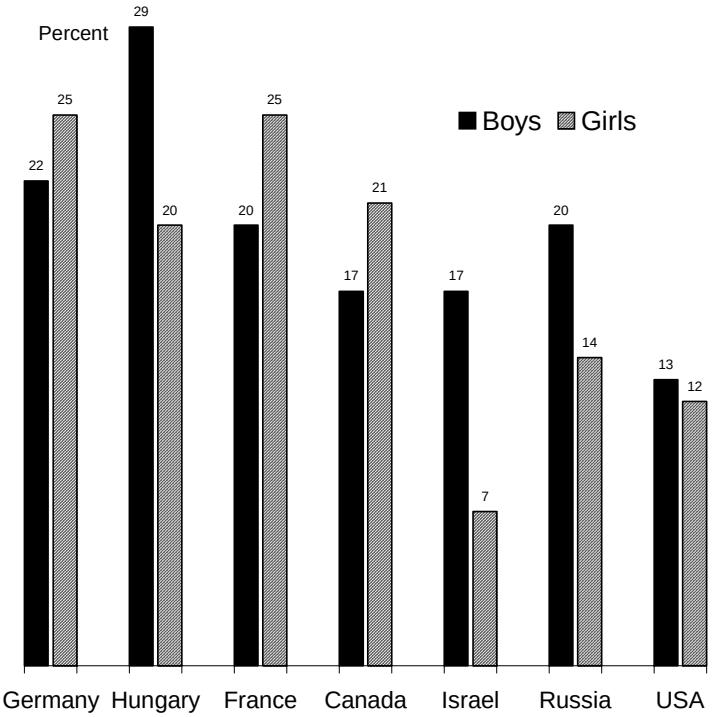
The elimination of Poverty is fundemental to the health and wel-fare of youth. Today, significant problems remail. Poverty (here defined as half the median national income) has increased in many countries of Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union and, even in industrialized counties, too many youth live below poverty.



Source: **KIDS COUNT INTERNATIONAL DATA SHEET**

Percent of 15-Year-olds Who Report Smoking Daily 1997/1998

As the leading cause of lung cancer across the world, smoking is a serious public health concern. Even more worrisome are the increasing numbers of teenage smokers in the industrialized countries of Europe and North America. Since 1994, the overall percentage of 15-year-olds who smoke daily has risen from 12 to 16 percent, with the sharpest increases among girls.



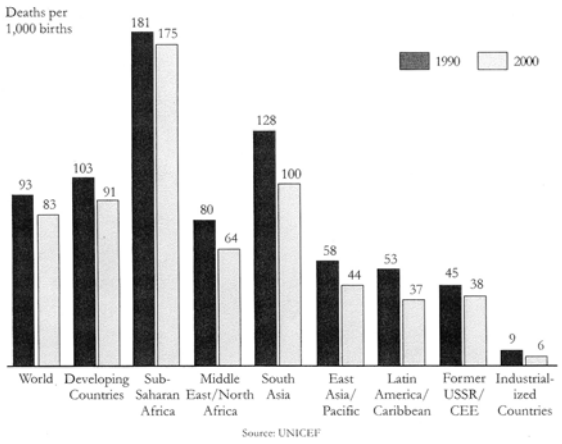
Source: **KIDS COUNT International Data Sheet**

under age five mortality rate declined somewhat in all regions, but the disparity across regions remains. Sub-Saharan Africa and South Asian regions remain with the highest such mortality.

Polio cases have dropped dramatically during the dozen years following 1988.

Under Age Five Mortality Rate[1], World Regions, 1990 and 2000

Infant and child mortality are key indicators of the health of children, with the level of the death rate under five (U5MR) often a result of health care delivery from early pregnancy to the postnatal period. While many regions did make progress on lowering under-five mortality, the regions with the lowest rates showed the greatest progress.



Source: KIDS COUNT International Data Sheet

DPT3 immunizations have improved slightly in four of the seven regions but declined in others.

The wall-chart reinforces the importance of reliable indicators of the status of critical aspects of health and well-being around the world.

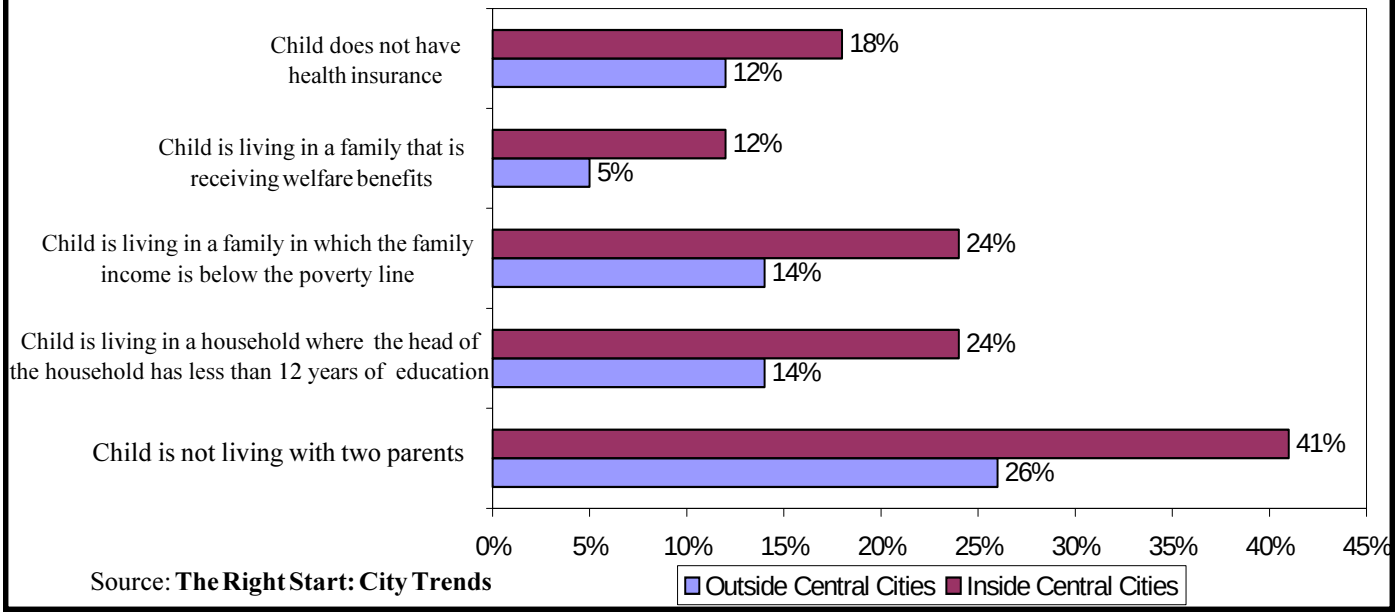
Other Reports on Children

Also available is a KIDS COUNT DATA SHEET 2001, and a 2001 KIDS COUNT Pocket Guide on America's Youth.

A pamphlet entitled, "Disconnected Kids: Children Without

(Continued on next page.)

Characteristics of Children Inside and Outside Central Cities, 1998



Source: **The Right Start: City Trends**

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a Phone at Home", by William O'Hare, the Director of the Kids Count Program, also has been released as of September 2001. Some 17.7 percent of New Mexico children do not have a phone in the home, while at the other extreme, only 2.0 percent of children are so deprived in Maine. The trend, however, shows 28 percent of poor children in homes without a phone in 1990 decreased to 16.2 percent nationwide in 2000. For all such children the percent declined from 9.2 percent to 5.9 percent nationwide. It appears to be a function of family income and rurality.

A KIDS COUNT working paper by William O'Hare and Megan Reynolds, entitled, "High-Risk Kids in American During the 1990s." was published in June 2001. A Family Risk Index is assigned, based upon a child living with a family with four or more of the following: 1, child is not living with two parents; 2, household head is a high school dropout; 3, family income is below the poverty line; 4, child is living with parent(s) who is unemployed; 5, family is receiving welfare benefits; 6, child does not have health insurance. The report analyzes state-level data for 1990 through 1999. In 2000 there were 7.1 million high-risk children in the U. S. However, the percent of high-risk children fell by 23 percent during the 1990s. The report identifies the states making and not making progress.

Comment

After applauding the increments of progress made during the 1990s in improving the conditions under which children live, I am left wondering what was done to bring about the improvement? The interventions by the State Kids Count programs and by the Healthy People program of the Surgeon General should be documented, state by state, county by county. Undoubtedly the records exist. We should have an evaluation of what worked and what did not work, and where. In the interest of future initiatives to improve child well-being, the well-being of the aged, the condition of battered women, of homeless men, and the many other problems of concern, knowing what interventions are effective and what interventions are not is important for planners, legislators, policy makers, and the taxpayer – all of us, in fact.

~ Abbott L. Ferriss

THE 2003 ISQOLS CONFERENCE AND WEB PAGE

Call for Papers and Program Announcements

Fifth International Society of Quality of Life Studies Conference

20 July to 24 July 2003

Conference Theme: Challenges for Quality of Life in the Contemporary World

Johann Wolfgang Goethe-University of Frankfurt/Main, Germany

Conference Chair: Prof. Wolfgang Glatzer

M. Joseph Sirgy, Executive Director of the International Society for Quality of Life Studies, has announced that the website location of the 2003 ISQOLS Conference World Wide Web Page is http://www.qualityoflife-2003.de. You also can get to the website by visiting ISQOLS homepage at http://www.cob.vt.edu/market/isqols and clicking on the 2003 Conference. The 2003 Conference Web Page contains information on details for submission of a paper for the conference, names and addresses of track chairs, and registration information. An electronic copy of the call for papers has been e-mailed to everyone on ISQOLS e-mail list. If you have not received your copy, please let Joe Sirgy know and he will send you one. If anyone would like to know more about the 2003 ISQOLS Conference, please communicate with Joe Sirgy (sirgy@vt.edu) or the contact person for the Frankfurt Organization Committee, Dr. Mathias Stoffregen (Stoffregen@soz.uni-frankfurt.de), or by post: Institut fur Gesellschafts und Politikanalyse Fachbereich Gesellschaftswissenschaften, J. W. Goethe-Universitat, Frankfurt am Main, Robert-Mayer-Strasse 5, D-60054, Frankfurt am Main, Germany. Contact information for the Conference: Tel. ++49 69 798-23 531, Fax. ++49 69 798-28 026, e-mail: 2003@isqol.com.

THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR QUALITY-OF-LIFE STUDIES

The International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies (ISQOLS) was formed in the mid-1990s. The objectives of ISQOLS are: 1) to stimulate interdisciplinary research in quality-of-life (QOL) studies within the managerial (policy), behavioral, social, medical, and environmental sciences; 2) to provide an organization which all academic, business, nonprofit, and government researchers who are interested in QOL studies can coordinate their efforts to advance the knowledge base and to create positive social change; and 3) to encourage closer cooperation among scholars engaged in QOL research to develop better theory, methods, measures, and intervention programs. The year 2000 membership fees are US$35 for regular members and $25 for students or retired persons. Prof. M. JOSEPH SIRGY (Virginia Tech and State University) is Executive Director of ISQOLS. Anyone interested in knowing more about ISQOLS should contact Prof. Sirgy at the central office: International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies, Dept. of Marketing, Pamplin College of Business, Virginia Tech, Blacksburg, VA 24061-0236; tel.: 540-231-5110; fax: 540-231-3076; e-mail: sirgy@vt.edu. The Society's homepage on the Internet also can be accessed at http://www.cob.vt.edu/market/isqols/.

UNESCO LOOKS AT THE WORLD'S CULTURE
A second report 2000

In 1998 UNESCO launched the first *World Culture Report.* In this publication, the message was: conflicts are not necessarily an obstacle to development; consequently, the question is one of knowing how governments are to channel conflicts as a productive rather than a destructive force. The second issue of the *World Culture Report*, appearing in 2000 (subsequently abreviated *WCR00*) , focuses on ´Cultural Diversity, Conflicts and Pluralism´. According to the content pages, the book consists of seven parts:

1) Cultural diversity, conflict & pluralism;
2) Current debates;
3) Cultural policies and cultural heritage;
4) New media and cultural knowledge;
5) International public opinion and national identity;
6) Measuring culture: national and international practices;
7) Statistical tables and culture indicators.

The *General introduction* points to the fact that the basic concepts, analytical methods and indicators are only now being constructed in the field of culture and development – in contrast to reports on such well established subjects as educa-

(Continued on next page.)

Exhibit A. LEADING NATIONAL, FOLK AND RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS, BY COUNTRY OR TERRITORY WITHIN REGIONS

	Number of leading festivals		
Sub-Saharan Africa	National	Folk & Religious	All
Angola	..	..	..
Benin	3	3	6
Botswana	..	..	..
Burkina Faso	..	..	..
Burundi	..	..	..
Cameroon	2	3	5
Central African Rep.	3	3	6
Chad	..	..	..
Congo	3	1	4
Cote d´Ivoire	3	3	6
Dem. Rep. of Congo	..	..	..
Eritrea	..	..	..
Ethiopia	3	3	6
Gabon	..	..	..
Gambia	..	..	..
Ghana	..	..	..
Guinea	3	2	5
Guinea-Bissau	..	..	..
Kenya	..	..	..
Lesotho	..	..	..
Liberia	3	3	6
Madagascar	2	3	5
Malawi	3	3	6
Mali	..	..	..
Mauritania	..	..	..
Mauritius	..	..	..
Mozambique	..	..	..
Namibia	..	..	..
Niger	3	3	6
Nigeria	3	3	6
Rwanda	..	..	..
Senegal	..	..	..
Sierra Leone	..	..	..
Somalia	..	..	..
South Africa	3	2	5
Sudan	..	..	..
Swaziland	3	2	5
Tanzania	2	3	5
Togo	..	3	3
Uganda	..	..	..
Zambia	..	..	..
Zimbabwe	..	..	..
Sum Sub-Sah. Africa	**42**	**43**	**85**
Arab States			
Algeria	3	3	6
Egypt	3	..	3
Iraq	..	..	..
Jordan	..	..	..
Kuwait	3	3	6
Lebanon	3	3	6
Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	..	..	..
Morocco	3	3	6
Oman	2	3	5
Saudi Arabia	1	2	3
Syrian Arab Rep.	..	..	..
Tunisia	3	3	6
United Arab Emirates	3	3	6
Yemen	..	..	..
Sum Arab States	**24**	**23**	**47**

	Number of leading festivals		
North America	National	Folk & Religious	All
Canada	3	3	6
United States of America	..	..	..
Sum North America	**3**	**3**	**6**
Europe			
Albania	..	..	..
Andorra	2	2	4
Austria	..	..	..
Belarus	..	..	..
Belgium (Fl)	3	3	6
Belgium (Fr)	3	3	6
Bosnia & Herzegovina	..	..	..
Bulgaria	..	..	..
Croatia	3	3	6
Cyprus	3	3	6
Czech Rep.	3	3	6
Denmark	2	3	5
Estonia	3	3	6
Finland	3	3	6
France	3	1	4
Germany	3	3	6
Greece	3	3	6
Hungary	..	..	..
Ireland	..	..	..
Israel	..	3	3
Italy	3	3	6
Latvia	3	3	6
Lithuania	3	3	6
Macedonia(form.Yugosl.Re	1	3	4
Modova (Rep.)	..	..	..
Netherlands	3	3	6
Norway	..	..	..
Poland	..	..	..
Portugal	..	..	..
Romania	..	..	..
Russian Federation	3	2	5
San Marino	3	2	5
Slovakia	..	..	..
Slovenia	..	..	..
Spain	3	3	6
Sweden	..	..	..
Switzerland	3	3	6
Turkey	3	3	6
Ukraine	3	3	6
United Kingdom	3	3	6
Yugoslavia	..	..	..
Sum Europe	**68**	**70**	**138**
East Asia			
China	3	3	6
Hong Kong SAR	..	..	..
Korea (Dem. People´s Re	..	..	..
Korea (Rep. of)	3	3	6
Japan	..	..	..
Mongolia	..	..	..
Sum East Asia	**6**	**6**	**12**

	Number of leading festivals		
South Central Asia	National	Folk & Religious	All
Afganistan	..	..	..
Armenia	..	..	..
Azerbaijan	3	3	6
Bangladesh	3	3	6
Bhutan	..	..	..
Georgia	..	..	..
India	3	3	6
Iran (Isl. Rep. of)	3	3	6
Kazakhstan	3	3	6
Kyrgyzstan	..	..	..
Nepal	2	3	5
Pakistan	3	3	6
Sri Lanka	3	3	6
Tajikistan	..	..	..
Turkmenistan	3	3	6
Uzbekistan	3	3	6
Sum South C. Asia	**29**	**30**	**59**
South-East Asia & Oceania			
Australia	3	3	6
Cambodia	..	..	..
Indonesia	3	3	6
Lao People´s Dem.Rep.)	..	..	..
Malaysia	..	..	..
Myanmar	..	..	..
Nauru	3	3	6
New Zealand	..	..	..
Niue	3	3	6
Papua New Guinea	..	..	..
Philippines	3	3	6
Samoa	3	3	6
Singapore	..	..	..
Thailand	..	..	..
Viet Nam	..	..	..
Sum South-East Asia	**18**	**18**	**36**
Latin America & Caribbean			
Antigua	3	3	6
Argentina	3	3	6
Barbados	2	2	4
Belize	2	2	4
Bolivia	..	1	1
Brazil	..	..	..
Chile	3	3	6
Colombia	..	..	..
Costa Rica	3	3	6
Cuba	3	3	6
Dominican Rep.	3	3	6
Ecuador	2	2	4
El Salvador	3	3	6
Guatemala	..	..	..
Haiti	3	2	5
Honduras	..	..	..
Jamaica	..	..	..
Mexico	3	3	6
Nicaragua	3	3	6
Panama	3	3	6
Paraguay	..	..	..
Peru	3	3	6
Saint Lucia	3	3	6
Saint Vincent	3	2	5
Trinidad & Tobago	3	3	6
Uruguay	3	3	6
Venezuela	3	3	6
Sum Latin America	**57**	**56**	**113**
Total World	**247**	**249**	**496**

.. Not available.

Note: Counts made by the author, based on verbal statements (i.e. ´Independence Day´) in Table 8 & 9.

;as a response to a special questionnaire prepared and issued by the World Culture Report Unit in Spring 1999.

Source: WCR00, ´National ´ from Table 8; ´Folk& Religious´ from Table 9.

tion and science. (More about this under the Comments section.)
The last part, 7, on the culture indicator tables is presented in the publication within six main areas:

- Cultural activities and trends (i.e., newspapers & books, Tables 1-5)
- Cultural practices and heritage (e.g. leading languages & religions, national festivals, Tables 6-12)
- Ratifications (i.e., the UN Human Rights conventions, Tables 13, 14)
- Cultural trade and communication trends (e.g., trends in cultural trade, Tables 15-20)
- Translations (i.e., translations by original language, Tables 21-23)
- Cultural context (e.g., education, human capital. Tables 24-30)

Within the area of Cultural practices and heritage, UNESCO has taken the first steps to expand the scope of the culture indicators by presenting six new tables on previously uncharted multicultural areas – based on data from a special questionnaire prepared and issued in Spring 1999. These six are: leading languages; leading religions; national festivals; folk and religious festivals; most-visited cultural sites, and most-visited natural sites. These items are presented in Tables 6 to 11.

World Culture Report 2000. Cultural diversity, conflict and pluralism. Published in 2000 by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization. 7 place the Fontenoy 75352 Paris 07 SP France. UNESCO Publishing. 416 pages. ISBN 92-3-103751-X

The information in the above tables is – unfortunately for a quantitative exploration –presented verbally. For instance, data on leading languages (in daily use), Table 6, lists - to pick one country ´out of the bunch´- for Cameroon: Fulfulde, Pidgin-English, Ewondo, Bassa, Douala. And so it goes all through Tables 6-11! (For further examples, see Exhibit C.)

Leading festivals around the world

Festivals, if any event, stand in for collective identity (´belonging-to-a-nation´). Therefore, they are of special interest from a cultural point of view. So, notwithstanding the ´statistical difficulty´(namely verbalized information), I will try to ´condense´ some data on *national festivals, folk and religious festivals* (Tables 8, 9) by counting in Exhibit A the events that are listed by countries or territories.

From Exhibit A (on previous page) one can deduce that almost 3/4, 72.2%, of all countries (that is, of the 90 that have supplied information on the number of festivals), had enumerated 6 festivals (regardless of national or folk and religious ones). 14.4% came up with 5 festivals, while 7.7% declared having 4 festivals; the rest, 5.5% reported 3 or fewer such events. A caveat in interpreting the numbers in Exhibit A: The substantial proportion of those countries listing 6 festivals (and not a higher number) makes one suspicious. Maybe the countries were instructed in the questionnaire to list 6 festivals at most? To clarify this questionmark, I have asked for a copy from the World Culture Report Unit in a letter 9 July, but to date the letter has not been answered. At this time the query must be set aside.

When looking at regional differences (for instance Sub-Saharan Africa versus Arab States) one may – in a layperson fashion – presume that there could be a relation between the number of official languages spoken, and the number of festivals taking place: the more languages in use, the more festivals ´offered´. So, let us test this very vague presumption. Exhibit B may serve as a basis for this ´hunch´.

Exhibit B, then, gives an indication that both in Sub-Saharan Africa, South Central Asia, and South-East Asia the number of festivals do not correspond to the number of languages – in these regions the proportion is higher than the proportion of festivals. (In Sub-Saharan Africa substantially higher.). The contrary can be said about the remaining regions (the Arab States etc.)

Before leaving this section on festivals around the world, let us put a ´magnifying glass´on the verbalized information supplied in Tables 8 and 9, though not revealed in this review. Narrowing the lenses by looking at those ´3/4 of countries´, referred to earlier, Exhibit C contains a sampler of approximately one fourteenth of these countries (having reported 6 festivals, all counted). I have taken a random sample, stratified by region, so as to cover a slice of the variety of festivals around the globe. Now, a few observations regarding Exhibit C:

- Looking down the column ´National festivals´, it appears that 4 of the 9 countries celebrate their Independence Day, be it in Sub-Saharan Africa, and among Arab States, in the domain of South-East Asia& Oceania, as well as in Latin America.(3 of those, in addition, commemorates ´republic day´,´republic restoration´). In Europe, Italy and Lithuania have a ´Liberation Day´and a ´Statehood Day´ respectively.
- The ´Folk… festivals´ column shows a spectrum. Two countries, Kazakstan and Nauru, devote festivals solely to music (& dance), and Nauru to Arts & Crafts. Religious themata abound : a Jesus & Mary Fest, Semana Santa, Virgen de las Mercedes, Christmas and Eastern (Italy, UK), All Saints Day.

Comment: World Culture Reports in the Future

Let me quote Leo Goldstone, Director, World Statistics Ltd. (United States), the prime organization in the presentation of *WCR00* data:
´This positive response by Member States

(Continued on next page.)

Exhibit B. NUMBER OF OFFICIAL LANGUAGES RELATED TO THE NUMBER OF FESTIVALS, BY REGION

Region	No. of official langs.	%	No. of festivals	%	% officia langs. Minus that of festivals*
Sub-Saharan Africa	63	28.0	85	17.1	10.9
Arab States	17	7.6	47	9.5	-1.9
South Central Asia	38	16.9	59	11.8	5.1
East Asia	5	2.2	12	2.4	-0.2
South East Asia & Oceania	21	9.3	36	7.3	2.0
Latin America & Caribbean	31	13.7	113	22.8	-9.1
North America	2	0.8	6	1.2	-0.4
Europe	48	21.3	138	27.8	-6.5
Total	225	100.0	496	100.0	

*A plus sign implies that the percentage of official languages (of all languages) is higher than the percentage of festivals (of all counted); a minus sign means that festivals ´outweight´ the languages proportion.

Source: Official languages: *WCR00*, p. 315; Festivals, Exhibit A.

(Continued from previous page.)

argues in favour of preparing and issuing a special biennal questionnaire on key cultural areas that are still missing as a regular part of the work programme for future World Culture Reports... *We welcome comments on and critisism of the indicators and their presentation in order to improve them in future* World Culture Reports. (p.289)

Part 7 indirectly addresses the issues of statistics and developing indicators. Refering to this topic, the General Introduction points out:

´While other UNESCO reports such as those on education and science can call on decades of statistics… to provide a clear state of the art, the field of culture and development is only now creating the art. The basic concepts, analytical methods and indicators are only now being constructed´. (p. 18)

And, furthermore,

´Cultural indicators cannot be constructed without solid theoretical and conceptual grounds to build on. Nor can they have any influence in the world if the concerns that are at the root of such explorations are not policy driven. Cultural concerns were absent from development planning for a very long time and it is only in recent years that these tasks have been taken up by governments nd international agencies´. (p.19)

These quotations assures us that a) there will be a third *WCR* issued, perhaps later this year, and b) in order to make cultural indicators ´policy driven´, for sure, a lot of work by national and international agencies lies ahead.

Nota Bene

In the celebration of the new millenium, the *Report* includes for the first time a CD-ROM entitled *Guide to Cultural Resources on the Web*, that provides all the necessary addresses for a complete visit to museums and cultural management sites worldwide. This CD-ROM is planned to operate as an interface between a personal computer and the World Wide Web to facilitate access to web cultural information. Two types of thematic resources have been explored for all UNESCO Member States: Museum websites and heritage management websites, all in all, more than 3,000 sites.

~LeifGouiedo

Exhibit C. NATIONAL FESTIVALS, FOLK AND RELIGIOUS FESTIVALS IN SELECTED COUNTRIES. A SAMPLER

Region, Country	National festivals	Folk & religious festivals
Sub-Saharan Africa		
Niger	Independence Day	Bianou Muhammed´s Birthday
	Republic Day	Budin Daji, Animist Fest
	World Labour Day	Hottungo, New Year
Arab States		
Algeria	Revolution Day	Maoussem Taghit
	Independence Day	Yennayer
	Maudjahid Day	Sebiba Festival,Djanet
South Central Asia		
Kazakhstan	K urban Ayt Sacrifice	Traditional Music Festival
	Easter	Classical Dance Fest
	Nayryz Eastern New Year Int.	Popular Music Fest
South-East Asia		
Nauru	Angam Day	Women ´s Arts & Crafts Fest
	Independence Day	Nauru Pasific Arts Fest
	NPC Handover Day	Women´s Easter Choral Competition
Latin America		
Argentina	Navidad	Cosquin Folklore Festival
	Pascua de Resurreccion	Jesus & Mary Fest
	Immaculate Conception	Popular Music Fest
Dom. Rep.	Independence Day	Senora de la Alta Gracia
	Republic Restoration	Semana Santa
	Juan Pablo Duarte Day	Virgen de las Mercedes
Europe		
Italy	Liberation Day	Christmas
	Labour Day	All Saints Day
	Ferragosto	Easter
Lithuania	Statehood Day	Skamba Skamba, Kankliai
	Trakai Festival	Sea Festival
	VilniusFestival	Uzgavenes Winters Erod Fest
United Kingdom	Guy Fawkes Day	Easter
	Queen´s Birthday	Hallowe´en
	St. George´s Day	Christmas

Source: *WCR00*: ´National…´ from Table 8; ´Folk…´ from Table 9.

Models for Analyzing Marketing Data

A new textbook sets fourth six models that may be used in marketing research. The models apply to revealed preference data. Each model is explored in a chapter of the text, following a uniform outline: "(1) representation and interpretation, (2) the estimation of the model parameters, (3) model diagnostics and inference, (4) a detailed illustration and (5) advanced topics." The text assumes basic understanding of regression techniques and of matrix algebra.

Philip Hans Franses and Richard Paap, *Quantitattive Models in Marketing Research.* Cambridge, UK: Cambridge University Press, 2001. Pp. 206. Hardback, $45.00. (Cambridge University Press, 40 West 20th St., New York, NY 20011-4211, tel: 212 924 3900, extn. 310.)

The first author, Philip Hans Franses, is Professor of Applied Econometrics with the Econometric Institute and Professor of Marketing Research with the Department of Martketing and Organization, Erasmus University. Richard Paap holds the position of Postdoctoral Researcher, the Rotterdam Institute for Business Economic Studies, Erasmus University, Rotterdam.

The authors attribute the following definition to Lehmann (1998): "marketing research is the collection, processing, and analysis of information on topics relevant to marketing. It begins with problem definition and ends with a report and action recommendations." (p. 2)

Revealed preference data deserves special attention, according to the authors, since stated preference data is already covered by several texts and marketing data on revealed preferences for products is increasingly available to researchers.

Revealed preference data, such as sales, either in monetary terms or number of units, may be expressed as a percentage share of the market. These may be observed over time. Other data may be discreet, such as, individual response or no-response to direct mailing. The latter requires use of the binomial distribution. If three or more brands are available in a study, or if questionnaire responses allow several discreet responses, the multinomial dependent variable, ordered or unordered, may be applied. Censored and truncated data, also, may be encountered, for example, with responses to direct mail appeals that result in no response or a response with varying amounts donated. These types of data sets, and others, are addressed in the volume.

'

The single equation linear regression model may be appropriate for sales data while a multiple regression equation model may be required for market share data. Binomial and multinomial data require models that consider dependent variables that are not continuous. Models for choice data must consider the probability that a brand is selected, in direct mailing, out of a number of other brands, in addition to the probability of no response. Probability enters, also, in the case of censored data, where household may or may not contribute to charity. Conditional probability also is employed with time-lapse data, for it takes into account the probability of a second event assuming that a period of time has elapsed since the first event. These are other analytical problems are resolved by the models presented in the volume.

The authors begin with a chapter illustrating graphical and tabulated presentations of data. Data illustrate a binomial variable with two brands and an unordered multinomial variable offering choice between four brands. In addition, illustrations are given for an ordered multinomial variable, a censored variable (a measure of the money donated to charity) and time lapse between purchases of a liquid detergent

The standard linear regression model is treated in the next chapter. Both ordinary least squares and maximum likelihood estimation methods are addressed.

The binomial dependent variable model is presented in Chapter 4, both Logit and Probit models. This presentation is expanded in the next chapter, with attention to the unordered multinomial dependent variable. Several models are considered: the Multinomial Logit model, the Multinomial Probit model, the Nested Logit model and the Conditional Logit model. These models are frequently employed in marketing research.

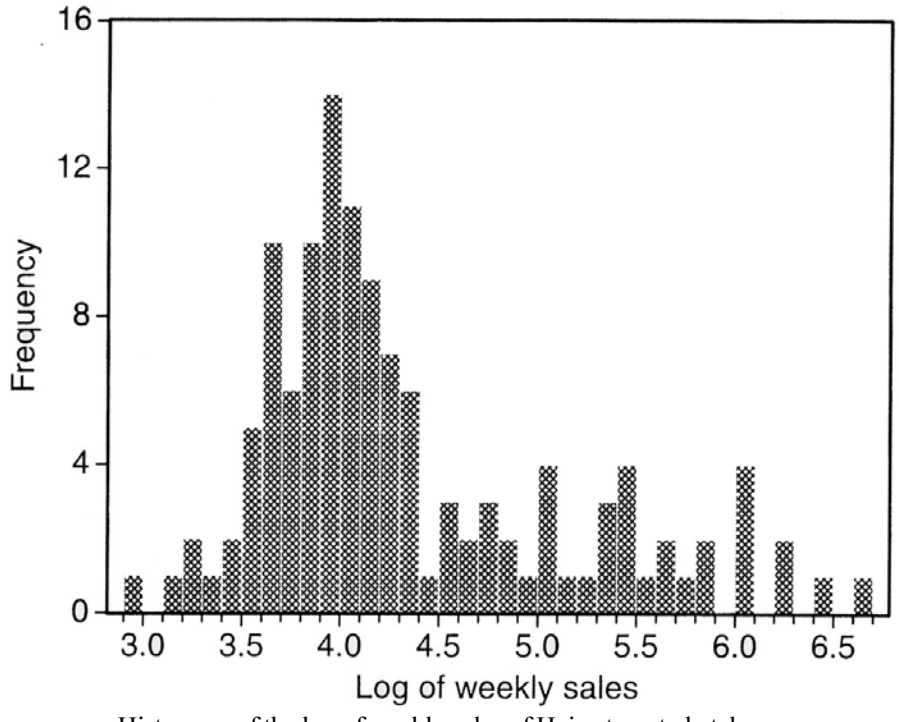
For an ordered multinomial dependent variable, the Logit and the Probit models are discussed. It is often revealing to identify the specific characteristics of the consumer that explain a classification, for example, the several risk profiles of customers of a financial investment firm.

Dependent variables that are partly censored and partly truncated are the subjects of models discussed in Chapter 7. This is illustrated by a model for money donated to charity for a large sample of donors.

Finally, Chapter 8 addresses the use of a duration dependent variable; the time that elapsed since a given event occurred. Given the lapse of time since the first purchase,

(Continued on next page.)

Features of marketing research data



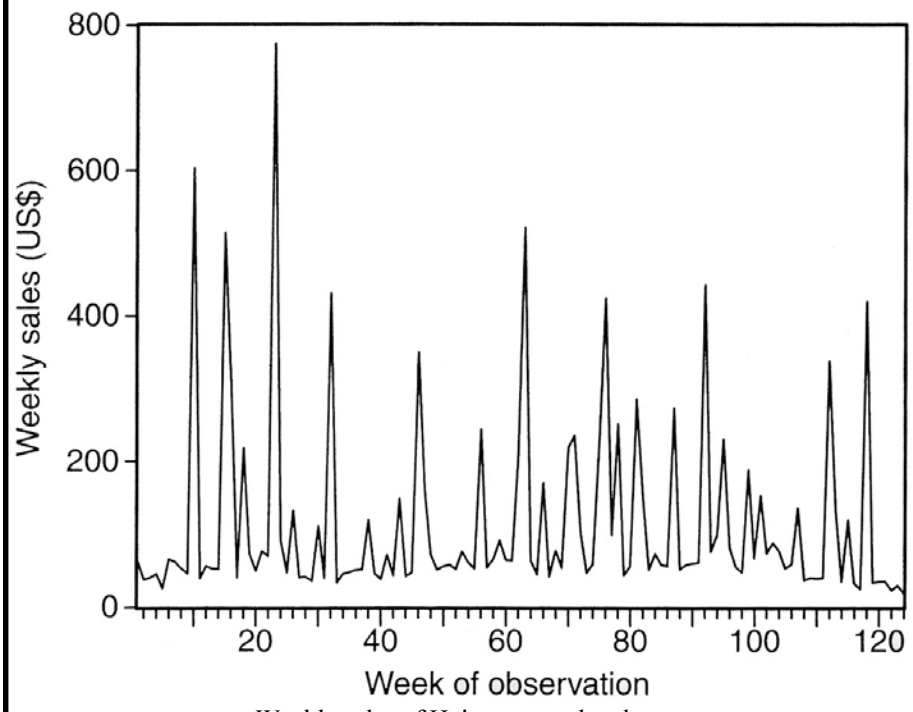
Histogram of the log of weekly sales of Heinz tomato ketchup

how likely is it that a customer will purchase a detergent again? Two models are discussed: the Accelerated Lifetime model and the Proportional Hazard model.

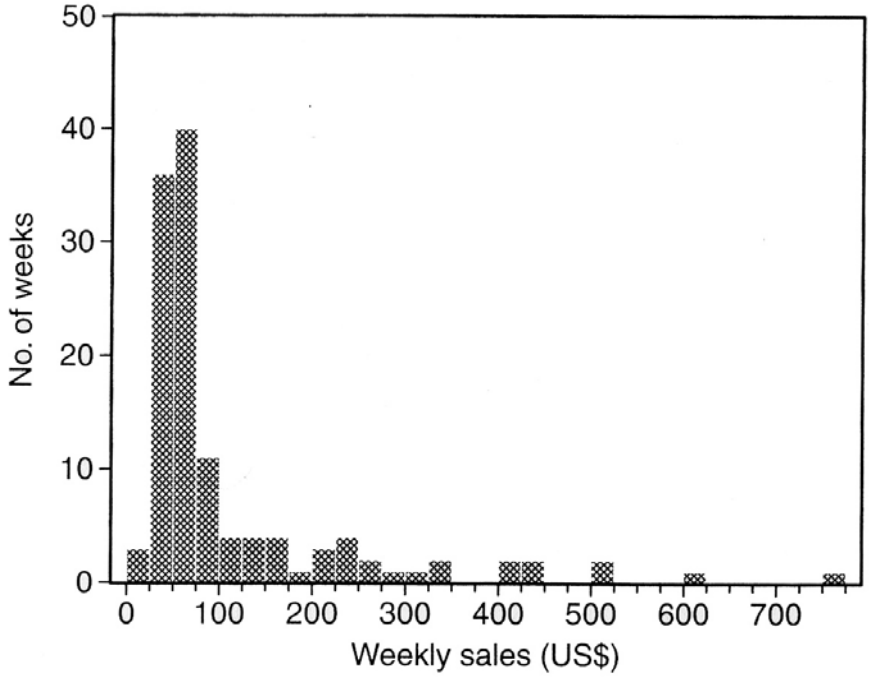
The Franses-Paap text offers a guide for undergraduate-level and graduate-level courses , and to practitioners, to precise modeling approaches for marketing data. Its use should improve the quality of analyses of marketing data and hence resulting administrative marketing decisions. It is clearly written both verbally and in mathematical notation. The Appendix gives an overview of matrix algebra to acquaint the student with the notation used in the book. The Appendix also includes a table of statistical distributions, for reference. A six-page bibliography should be useful to the advanced student who wishes to explore a topic more fully.

~ Abbott L. Ferriss

Quantitative models in marketing research



Weekly sales of Heinz tomato ketchup



Histogram of Sales of Heinz tomato ketchup

Back Issues of *SINET* offered to Libraries and Research Institutes

A *SINET* admirer has donated funds to facilitate the delivery of back issues of *SINET* from Number Zero (Fall 1984) to Number 44 (Fall 1995). If you would like your institutional or research institute library to have a set for free, while they last, send a request with your name and address to Abbott L. Ferriss, 1273 Oxford Road, NE, Atlanta, GA 30306; or send an email message aferris@emory.edu.

2002 Election Results of Working Group 6 on Social Indicators and Social Reporting of the International Sociological Association

Wolgang Glatzer, the outgoing President of Working Group 6 on Social Indicators and Social Reporting of the International Sociological Association announces the following election results for the Executive Board of WG6 for the years 2002-2206:

1. President: Kenneth Land (and Newsletter Editor)

2. Vice-President: Heinz-Herbert Noll

3. Secretary: Ruut Veenhoven

Board-Members:

4. Liz Eckermann

5. Wolfgang Glatzer (Past-President)

6. Anna Lau

7. Alex Michalos

8. Joachim Vogel

The election was held at the XV World Congress of Sociology in Brisbane, Australia, July 7-13, 2002.

WOLFGANG ZAPF CROSSES 65

Wolfgang Zapf can be described without doubt as an outstanding and influential social scientist from the 1960s to the end of the 20th century in Germany. When he met some of his friends in Berlin to celebrate his 65th anniversary, the place was of symbolic significance. The event happened at the border of the Griebnitz Lake, just where the "Wall" separated East and West Germany ten years ago. It reminded us of the most important change in Germany in the second half of the 20th century, which was termed by Wolfgang Zapf in some of his publications as a "transformation process". His guests honored his scientific performance and his personal tolerance in many respects. As an investigator of social change in the tradition of modernization, he developed a track that seems contradictory: his work demonstrates a conservative belief in progress (Peter Flora). He is the founder of social indicators research in Germany and he
perceives it as standing on two feet: the monitoring of social change and the measurement of the quality of life. Early in the 1970s, he conducted research on the quality of life, invented the welfare survey, promoted welfare research, and contributed significantly to the promising approach of social reporting. Social indicators and social reporting claim Wolfgang Zapf to be an important founding figure in establishing this research direction in Germany (Richard Hauser). His life course is an exceptionally straightforward successful scientific career, accompanied by family building as was usual for his time. This was expressed visually at the celebration by a well-known life course researcher (Karl Ulrich Mayer), who demonstrated with pictures how Wolfgang Zapf and his family context developed over the decades. Wolfgang Zapf was born 1937 April 25th in Frankfurt am Main. He studied sociology and economics in Frankfurt, Hamburg and Cologne and his diploma work was written at the Frankfurt Institut für Sozialforschung" supervised by Theodor W. Adorno, the productive and internationally known head of the Frankfurt School. From Frankfurt, he moved to the newly established reform-university at Konstanz as an assistant of Ralf Dahrendorf, who later became President of the London School of Economics. In Konstanz, W. Zapf wrote his habilitation about "Theories and Indicators of Modernization". In 1968, he received his first Chair at the Frankfurt University where he institutionalized, together with Hans Jürgen Krupp, the research group SPES (Social Politicial Decision and Indicator System for the Federal Republic of Germany) and the adjoining Special Research Department 3 (Microanalytical Foundation of Societal Policy). Then he went to the University of Mannheim where he worked from 1972 to 1987 in the research context already developed. His next step led him to the Wissenschaftszentrum Berlin für Sozialforschung, where he has guided until this day the "Social Structure and Social Reporting" division. He is also Professor at the Freie Universität Berlin. Then there are the many positions he took in university and scientific career: Dean of the Mannheim Faculty for Social Sciences, founder of the section Social Indicators in the German Society for Sociology, Chairman of the German Society for Sociology, President of the Science Center Berlin and others.

In honour of Wolfgang Zapf, three scholars have compiled a "Festschrift" titled "Sozialer Wandel und gesellschaftliche Dauerbeobachtung" (Social Change and Societal Monitoring, edited by Wolfgang Glatzer, Roland Habich and Karl Ulrich Mayer), which was published this years by Leske & Budrich. The main part of the volume is concentrated on questions about the German society, to describe, to monitor and to understand its changes. The book is dedicated to the major themes of Wolfgang Zapf's scholarship: First, there are the challenges of modernisation to the welfare state, to the cities, to vocational education and to value change. The second is transformation as a term that characterises the development of German society, especially in East Germany after the unification. The review is concentrated on topics of the socialist city, of new founded enterprises in East Germany, and on the influence of the new tendencies on the life courses. Welfare research, a further rubric, is related to socio-economic inequality, to poverty, to wealth, to the quality of life, and to welfare production. Enlightenment around the problem of severe inequalities is a matter of several contributions. In the last topic, "Societal Monitoring and Social Indicators", there are chapters on monitoring of life styles, global welfare measures, conceptual models for the development and use of indicators, the international comparability of statistics and so on. Last but not least there is the area of "Science and Political Counseling" where social reporting with respect to the necessary informational infrastructure is elaborated, the functions of social reporting in regard to political counseling are discussed and the tension between science as profession and career is regarded. Most of the authors are German colleagues but four are from the USA, The Netherlands and Sweden. It remains only to say that the editors wrote about Wolfgang Zapf: "We are grateful to a person with an unusual mixture of clearness, modesty and irony".

~ Wolfgang Glatzer

SINET WORLD WIDE WEB HOMEPAGE

SINET has a homepage entry on the World Wide Web. It is located on the homepage of the Department of Sociology at Duke University and thus can be accessed by clicking on Department Publications on the address of that page, namely, http://www.soc.duke.edu or by typing in the full address http://www.soc.duke.edu/dept/sinet/index.html. The homepage for *SINET* contains a description of the Contents of the Current Issue as well as of Previous Issues. In addition, it has Subscription Information, Editorial Information, Issue-Related Links, and a link to the homepage of ISQOLS, the International Society for Quality-of-Life Studies. The Issue-Related Links button has links to World Wide Web locations of data for the construction, study, and analysis of social and quality-of-life indicators that have been identified in previous issues of *SINET*. When you are surfing the Web, surf on in to our homepage.

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Social Indicators Network News

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Social Indicators Network News

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