The HILDA Survey: Progress and Developments

Mark Wooden

Overview

- Data use
- Response rates
- Evolving content
- Data quality
- Future developments
Data users (as at 19 Sept 2005)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Type of user</th>
<th>Release 1 (final)</th>
<th>Release 2 (final)</th>
<th>Release 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Academic</td>
<td>87</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>118</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Student</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>38</td>
<td>39</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Commonwealth govt.</td>
<td>88</td>
<td>85</td>
<td>82</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other govt.</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>13</td>
<td>5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Other</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOTAL</td>
<td>203</td>
<td>264</td>
<td>252</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Response rates

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Wave-on-wave (%)</th>
<th>% of W1 respondents</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Wave 2</td>
<td>86.8</td>
<td>86.8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 3</td>
<td>90.4</td>
<td>81.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wave 4</td>
<td>91.6</td>
<td>78.5</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
New content – Wave 4

- HQ
  - Household income (banded)*
- PQ
  - Private health insurance
  - Youth issues
  - Extra disability questions
  - Visa category (NPQ in future waves)
- SCQ
  - Religion

New content – Wave 5

- CPQ
  - Fertility
  - Non co-residential relationships
  - Leave from work*
  - Carers*
  - Intentions and plans
  - Parents’ education (NPQ in future waves)
- SCQ
  - Personality
  - Household expenditure
  - Intra-household division of labour
  - Attitudes to marriage & children
  - Additional job characteristics items*
New content – Wave 6

- HQ / CPQ
  - Repeat of wealth (from W2)
- SCQ
  - Undecided

The changing data

- Income imputation
- Sample weights
- Other issues
  - Longitudinal inconsistencies
  - Tax imputation
  - Recording of FY benefit income
Future developments

- Immigrant top-up
  - Large infrequent top-up or small regular top-ups?
  - Where do we obtain sample frame?
  - Will main sample be compromised in any way?
  - Why restrict only to immigrants?
  - Should we test a variety of methods or only one?

- Cross National Equivalence File
- Computer assisted interviewing

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