

**Summary of the National Survey of Fertility Barriers' (NSFB) Data Users' Workshop  
Population Association of America Annual Meeting**

2:30-6:00 pm on Saturday, April 17, 2010

Shawnee Trail Room, Hyatt Regency

Dallas, Texas

The National Survey of Fertility Barriers (NSFB) is a nationally-representative RDD dataset recently released for public use. The NSFB includes 4,712 women ages 25-45 and a subsample of 978 of their spouses/partners. Three year follow-up interviews (wave 2) are complete and will be made publicly available by December, 2010.

The NSFB is the only contemporary longitudinal study of fertility and fertility barriers among women of reproductive age. Compared to other large datasets useful for demographers (e.g. National Survey of Fertility Growth and National Survey of Families and Households), the NSFB combines two-waves, partners, detailed fertility information, fertility desires, detailed fertility helpseeking behaviors, attitudes and psychological variables.

The Population Association of America (PAA) provided \$10,000 for the NSFB research team, including David R. Johnson, The Pennsylvania State University, Julia McQuillan, University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Karina M. Shreffler, Oklahoma State University, and Arthur L. Greil, Alfred University to conduct a data users' workshop. The primary goal of the workshop was to introduce new users to the structure, content, and methodology of the NSFB and to offer hands-on opportunities to analyze data.

Nearly 40 people registered for the workshop, and 26 people attended. The workshop was divided into two parts; the research team first provided an overview of the NSFB, which was followed by hands-on roundtables. Attendees received copies of the methodology reports, syntax files, and wave 1 of the NSFB in SPSS and STATA (open-ended data was also provided in excel).

We are quite pleased with the success of the workshop. Prolific scholars from several countries were represented at the workshop, and we have had ongoing contact with several people who are already working towards publications with the NSFB data. In addition, we believe that the visibility of the workshop informed a number of scholars about the data. Nearly 20 people registered and downloaded the data from the Penn State Population Research Institute website in the few months before and after the conference.

In addition to informing participants about the possibilities for research using the NSFB, there was considerable specific interaction between members of the research team and attendees. This interaction generated fruitful methodological and substantive discussions. We asked participants to complete a brief evaluation of the workshop. Comments suggested that participants appreciated the 1 on 1 interaction with team members who guided them through the data set to find the information that they needed. Many also said that they appreciated the refreshments (they were tired from attending the conference and/or had not had time to get lunch before we started).

Final costs associated with the workshop were : \$5,393.56 for out-of-state travel (for workshop presenters); \$911.18 for refreshments; \$933.30 for A/V equipment rental; \$311.25 for workshop logo design; \$1,888.88 for workshop materials (folders, notepads, pens, and flash drives)