

## UnderStandingAmericaStudy

### **CESR UAS Data User Newsletter** **December, 2019**

*Welcome to the Center for Economic and Social Research's regular Understanding America Study data user newsletter, providing you with a quick update on UAS data news and happenings. This is the final newsletter of 2019.*

Follow us on Twitter @UAS\_CESR. Contact us at [uas-l@usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@usc.edu)

**Did you miss a newsletter? They are archived online at <https://uasdata.usc.edu>.**

### ***Still time to submit an abstract for CESR's second CIPHER conference! Deadline: December 30*** **Conference is 26-27 February 2020, in Washington, D.C.**

As population-representative online panels become more prominent in economic, social science and health research, researchers and policymakers continue to explore new ways to further increase their quality and usefulness. CESR launched the annual "*Current Innovations in Probability-based Household Internet Panel Research* (CIPHER) conference in 2019, to provide a platform for rigorous, time-sensitive and policy-relevant exchange on these issues. This year we are broadening the scope to include international perspectives, and voices from the policy, non-governmental and private sectors.

**Conference website: [https://cesr.usc.edu/cipher\\_2020](https://cesr.usc.edu/cipher_2020)**

***CESR's UAS Panel is continuing to grow:***

Another wave of national recruitment will be getting underway soon. UAS now has more than 8300 active panel members, including representative sub-panels of more than 3000 Californians and nearly 2000 residents of Los Angeles County.

***Our data repository is also growing:***

CESR has more than 200 linkable UAS survey data files easily available for registered user use as of the end of 2019.

***We are now offering a new free data housing service to survey authors:***

In support of open-science data transparency, and due to an increasing number of journals that require published manuscripts to make their data available for replication, we are offering a new free service to UAS survey authors. We will house your published analytic data files, or create fully de-identified files that you may house elsewhere.

## ----- **New UAS Data Releases** -----

### **Latest Data from UAS's Monthly and Quarterly Survey Series** ***No Embargo. New data, released monthly.***

- **UAS 102, 195, 198, 204, 205, 211, 215:** Onset of positive and negative life events, asked on a monthly basis. These data are combined into a single longitudinal file that will be available for download from UASData.USC.edu / "Special Datasets" menu. The file will be updated monthly, as this series continues.
- **UAS 199, 207:** Two UAS monthly surveys, focusing on politics, neighborhoods, investment choices, and news events.
- **UAS 194:** the first survey in the quarterly LA Barometer series of Los Angeles County residents on four key issues: livability; mobility; sustainability & resiliency; and affordability & prosperity. UAS 194 is the first **Livability** survey, on neighborhood quality of life in Los Angeles.

### **Highlights of other recent data releases**

- **UAS 77, 104, 105, 112, 142, 143, 144:** Embargoes have ended on these data sets from the Boston Fed series.

- **UAS 131,137,152:** Longitudinal and follow-up survey data releases from the Financial Health Network "Financial Pulse" series- 2018 and 2019 benchmark surveys.

----- **UAS Data Usage Stats\*** -----

\*Since UAS Redesign - July 2017

Number of active users	496
Survey data sets	2618
Non-response files	242
Timings data files	159
Platform data files	117
Survey codebook downloads	19,216
Zip files (HRS or Election data)	400
Question cart data sets	29
Recruitment, behavior, attrition	42
Newsletter	752
AAPOR recruitment rates files	910

## UAS Comprehensive Data File

***Latest version release: December 23, 2019***

Merged data from HRS and other UAS surveys:  
harmonized, cleaned, and ready to download and analyze

- UAS Health and Retirement Study (HRS) items
- cognitive and personality tests
- financial literacy
- subjective well-being
- health
- retirement data
- financial management
- preparation for retirement
- pensions
- marital history and family structure

- knowledge of Social Security rules
- useful derived variables. (e.g. household total wealth, yearly earnings, self-reported health, etc.)

The UAS Comprehensive File merges data from core surveys in the UAS. We carefully derive variables from these and the UAS Health and Retirement Study (UAS HRS).

**NEW:** Since the last newsletter, we've added UAS HRS Wave 2 derived Income and Wealth variables, as well as Wave 1 variables on Social Security and disability benefits. All UAS HRS Wave 1 derived variables are now included. In 2020, we will continue to add Wave 2 UAS HRS content.

Data and documentation at: <https://uasdata.usc.edu/page/UAS+Comprehensive+Data+File>

## From CESR's Evidence Base Blog

### Recent posts based on UAS data

#### [Innovations in Probability-Based Internet Panel Data.](#)

Exploring the Understanding America Study. A summary of the use of UAS's comprehensive file by Michael Moldoff, Francisco Perez-Arce and Arie Kapteyn

#### [What do Americans Think about Universal Basic Income?](#)

A recent survey of public opinion on a Universal Basic Income found that support and opposition are roughly equivalent, but responses can be pushed in one direction or another by the order in which questions are presented. By Edward Freeland

## Summary List of 2019 CESR UAS Publications

### Have you sent us yours?

#### Journal Papers

Arthur Stone, Marta Walentynowicz, Stefan Schneider, Doerte Junghaenel and Cheng K. Wen, "[MTurk Participants Have Substantially Lower Evaluative Subjective Well-Being Than Other Survey Participants](#)" *Computers in Human Behavior* Vol. 94: 1-8 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 125](#)

David Lauter, "[On tax day, most Americans don't feel new law made them better off](#)" *Los Angeles Times* April 15 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 175](#)

Gianpaolo Parise and Kim Peijnenburg, "[Noncognitive Abilities and Financial Distress](#)" *The Review of Financial Studies* Volume 32, Issue 10 (2019)

Janice Peterson, Barbara A. Smith and Qi Guan, "[Hispanics' Knowledge of Social Security: New Evidence](#)" **Social Security Bulletin** Vol. 79 No. 4 (2019) Associated survey(s):[UAS 16](#)

Jim Key and Jenesse Miller, "[Voters predict Trump's reelection, but less than a third would be happy about it](#)" **USC News** August 22 (2019) Associated survey(s):[UAS 197](#)

Laith Alattar, Matt Messel, David Rogofsky and Mark A. Sarney, "[The Use of Longitudinal Data on Social Security Program Knowledge](#)" **Social Security Bulletin** Vol. 79 No. 4: 1-12 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 16](#),[UAS 94](#)

Lila Rabinovich and Francisco Perez-Arce, "[Improving understanding of the retirement earnings test](#)" **Journal of Pension Economics & Finance** pp 1-18 (2019) Associated survey(s):[UAS 101](#)

Marco Angrisani and Maria Casanova, "[What you think you know can hurt you: under/over confidence in financial knowledge and preparedness for retirement.](#)" **Journal of Pension Economics & Finance** pp 1-16 (2019)

Ray Sin, Ryan Murphy and Samantha Lamas, "[Goals-Based Financial Planning: How Simple Lists Can Overcome Cognitive Blind Spots](#)" **Journal of Financial Planning** Vol. 32, Iss. 7 (2019) Associated survey(s):[UAS 150](#)

### Conference Papers

Ellen Peters, Mary Kate Tompkins, Melissa A. Z. Knoll, Stacy P. Ardoin, Brittany Shoots-Reinhard, and Alexa Simon Meara, "[Despite high objective numeracy, lower numeric confidence relates to worse financial and medical outcomes](#)" **Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America** September 9 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 1](#), [UAS 6](#), [UAS 18](#),[UAS 38](#)

Joseph Briggs and Christopher Tonetti, "[Risky Insurance: Insurance Portfolio Choice with Incomplete Markets](#)" **Society for Economic Dynamics** 2019 Meeting Papers, No. 1388 (2019) Associated survey(s):  
[UAS 118](#)

Richard Chard, MattheMessel, David Rogofsky and Kristi Scott, "[Social construction of target population: A quantitative application of Schneider and Ingram](#)" **American Association of Behavioral and Social Sciences** Annual meeting (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 135](#)

### Working Papers

Alessandra Gaia, Carli Lessof, and Mick P. Couper, "[A review of new technologies and data sources for measuring household finances: Implications for total survey error](#)" **Understanding Society at the Institute for Social and Economic Research** No. 2019-02 (2019)

Anya Samek, Arie Kapteyn and Andre Gray, "[Using Vignettes to Improve Understanding of Social Security and Annuities](#)" **National Bureau of Economic Research** No. 26176 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 141](#), [UAS 182](#)

Jeffrey R. Brown, Arie Kapteyn, Erzo Luttmer, Olivia S. Mitchell and Anya Samek, "[Behavioral Impediments to Valuing Annuities: Complexity and Choice Bracketing](#)" **forthcoming in Pension Research Council** March 12 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 49](#)

L. Kaczmirek, B. Phillips, DW Pennay, PJ Lavrakas and D. Neiger, "[Building a probability-based online panel: Life in Australia](#)" **CSRM and SRC Methods Papers** July (2019)

Leandro Carvalho, Arna Olafsson and Dan Silverman, "[Misfortune and Mistake: The Financial Conditions and Decision-making Ability of High-cost Loan Borrowers](#)" **National Bureau of Economic Research** No. w26328 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 5](#), [UAS 18](#), [UAS 119](#)

Lukas Brenner, Tobias Meyll, Oscar Stolper and Andreas Walter, "[Consumer fraud victimization and financial well-being](#)" **Philipps-Universität Marburg** Accounting & Finance Research Group (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 18](#), [UAS 38](#)

Nikhil Datta, "[Willing to Pay for Security: A Discrete Choice Experiment to Analyse Labour Supply Preferences](#)" **LSE Centre for Economic Performance** No. dp1632 (2019) Associated survey(s): [UAS 51](#)

### **Here is the list of all UAS Publications**

[<https://uasdata.usc.edu/page/Academic+Papers>]

Have you sent us yours ?

Please forward references to papers, presentations, blog posts etc. that are based on UAS data. Tracking them is a UAS funding requirement. We will feature your research in these newsletters and add your citation to our permanent online list.

## **Remember to acknowledge UAS as the source in all publications based on UAS Data**

**Language to adapt and add to your manuscript:**

The project described in this paper relies on data from survey(s) administered by the Understanding America Study (UAS) which is maintained by the Center for Economic and Social Research (CESR) at the University of Southern California. The content of this

paper is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of USC, CESR, or UAS.

**Questions? Feedback? Ideas for future newsletters?**  
Contact us at [uas-l@usc.edu](mailto:uas-l@usc.edu) or visit [UASdata.usc.edu](https://uasdata.usc.edu)

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To look at other survey data sets, visit <https://uasdata.usc.edu>

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