

PREFACE

Nonresponse is a vital topic in survey research. To focus attention on new developments “The International Conference on Survey Nonresponse“ was held October 28-31, 1999, in Portland, Oregon, U.S.A. The conference program consisted of invited and contributed papers. The invited papers will be published in a forthcoming monograph edited by Robert Groves, Don Dillman, John Eltinge, and Roderick Little and published by Wiley. The authors of contributed papers were encouraged to submit their papers to the Journal of Official Statistics for consideration for this special issue.

To ensure that the special issue would be truly representative of the current scholarship in survey nonresponse research, a call for papers was extended to selected researchers. In all 43 manuscripts were submitted to the special issue and seven were accepted for publication. It should be pointed out that a few submissions are still under review and might be published in an upcoming regular JOS issue.

The reader is reminded that also the JOS June 1999 issue was devoted to survey nonresponse. These special issues complement the edited monograph. I hope that this set of publications will stand as an authoritative, albeit not definitive, work documenting the current state of research on survey nonresponse.

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