

## Using Blaise 4.8 for Census Coverage Measurement

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An instrument for the Census Coverage Measurement (CCM) was initially developed in 2005 in preparation for the 2006 Dress Rehearsal and consequently set the groundwork for the 2010 Decennial effort. The initial Authoring team developed the instrument using Blaise 4.5 and Delphi code to collect data based on challenging requirements imposed by our sponsor. Several issues were found and reported during the Dress Rehearsal.

In 2008, a new group of authors inherited the 2006 Dress Rehearsal instrument and was tasked with implementing new requirements and new components that were not possible when the 2006 instrument was developed. In addition, the development timeframe was very short relative to the normal survey development timeframe at the Census Bureau. A decision was made to re-use the original code while taking advantage of new Blaise 4.8 features to correct issues and constraints imposed by the previous software and the requirements.

Many of the enhancements/implementations made to the new instrument rely heavily on Manipula. This paper will cover how the authors addressed the following requirements that were exclusively identified as “must” for this new instrument:

- Collect addresses in a simple and straightforward way - removing extra keystrokes that were used for the dress rehearsal in 2006.
- Provide data to the backend team in a more manageable way.
- Enhance roster collection and roster review functionality.
- Provide easier instrument navigation by setting the DEP focus on the last variable upon re-entry into partial case.

In addition, the paper will discuss what approaches were used to reduce redundant code in the instrument as well as the addition of an extra component in this instrument that was not feasible back in 2006.